

OFFICIAL JOURNAL
OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
AND
SENATE OF LOUISIANA.

—:O:—
SEVENTH LEGISLATURE—SESSION OF 1864.
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SHREVEPORT, LA.:
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1864.

GEORGE J. BROWN

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF IOWA

1871

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LOUISIANA LEGISLATURE.

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SEVENTH LEGISLATURE.

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SHREVEPORT, JAN. 18, 1864.

This being the day fixed by law for the meeting of the General Assembly, the House of Representatives met at the Court House in the city of Shreveport, Parish of Caddo.

On motion of Mr. Taylor of Carroll, the Hon. J. B. Elam, of DeSoto, was called to the chair, as temporary Speaker, and A. H. Isaacson as temporary Clerk.

The roll being called the following Representatives answered their names, viz:

Messrs. Anderson, from Madison, Berry from Claiborne, Cotton from Concordia, Couvillion from Avoyelles, Dougherty from Carroll, Drake from Tensas, Elam from DeSoto, Gilmore from Caddo, Hawkins from St. Landry, Head from Bienville, Jack from Natchitoches, Joffrion from Avoyelles, Johnston from Rapides, Johnston from Iberville, Mayo from Morehouse, McEnery from Ouachita, Myers from Rapides, Murrell from Claiborne, Peck from Madison, Presley from Sabine, and Taylor from Carroll. Twenty-one in number.

Mr. Cotton introduced a resolution as follows:

Resolved, That a committee of five members be appointed by the Speaker to investigate and report the number of members of this House who are subject to its process under the principles decided by the Supreme Court, in the case of the State vs. Captain B. Bickham, on the application of G. G. Norton for a writ of habeas corpus vs. Captain Wm. Flournoy.

Said resolution was passed, and the following named Representatives were appointed on said committee:

Messrs. Cotton, Taylor of Carroll, Myers, Anderson, of Madison, and Head.

On motion of Mr. Berry, the resolution was reconsidered, and the original resolution amended by Mr. Foulhouse, as follows:

That the committee report as regards

the loyal members from the Parishes occupied by the enemy, whether they are entitled to their seats in the House until their successors are duly elected and qualified.

The amendment was accepted by Mr. Cotton, and the resolution as amended adopted.

Said committee was, on motion, instructed to report to this House at 12 M. to-morrow.

On motion of Mr. Myers, the House adjourned until 12 M. to-morrow.

A. H. ISAACSON
Chief Clerk pro tem.

TUESDAY, JAN. 19, 1864.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Present—Mr. J. B. Elam, of DeSoto, Chairman.

On the call of the roll, thirty-one members answered to their names.

Mr. Cotton, on behalf of the select committee of five appointed yesterday to investigate and report the number of members of this House who are subject to its process under the principles decided by the Supreme Court in the case of the State vs. Captain B. Bickham on the application of J. J. Norton for a writ of habeas corpus vs. Capt. Flournoy, and to report as regards the loyal members from the Parishes occupied by the enemy, whether they be entitled to their seats in this House, until their successors are duly elected and qualified, submitted the following report:

The committee of five, to whom was referred the resolution to investigate and report the number of members of this House who are subject to its process under the principles decided by the Supreme Court in the case of the State vs. B. Bickham, &c., and also the amendment thereto, to inquire into the qualification and right of membership of delegates from such Parishes as are now within the enemy's lines,

beg leave to submit this their unanimous report:

That under the principles enunciated by the decision in the case of the State vs. B. Bickham, there are forty-eight members returned to this House in the late election, from twenty-nine Parishes, in which the writs of the House of Representatives will reach the members, and therefore it requires twenty-five of said members to be present to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business—(see the certificate of the Secretary of State accompanying this report) relative to the amendment as to the right of the delegates present from those Parishes which are overrun by the enemy, taking their seats in this House—we beg leave to report:

That as there is no provision in the Constitution, or the laws, positively denying said parties the right to a seat, and as held in the case above cited, that we should, in the face of pending difficulties, give to that instrument a liberal interpretation. Or we conclude that said parties should be admitted as members of this House, after its organization under the principles held in the decision above quoted.

J. B. COTTON.

Chairman.

On motion of Mr. Taylor of Carroll, the above report was unanimously adopted.

On motion of Mr. Anderson of St. Landry, the House proceeded to organize by electing its officers.

Mr. Griffin nominated Mr. J. B. Elam of DeSoto, as candidate for Speaker.

On the call of the roll it appeared that the following members, to-wit:

Messrs. Anderson of Madison, Anderson of St. Landry, Berry, Blanks, Cotton, Couvillion, Dougherty, Drake, Gilmore, Griffin, Hawkins, Head, Hodge, Jack, Joffrion, Johnston from Rapides, Johnston from Iberville, Lacy, Mayo, McCranie, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Osborne, Peck, Pitre, Pressley, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll, Taylor of Union, 30 in number, voted for Mr. Joseph B. Elam, who was consequently elected unanimously.

Mr. Elam was inducted into office by taking the oath required by law, which was administered by the Hon. Roland Jones, Judge of the 10th Judicial District.

The Speaker thereafter administered the oath to the following members, to-wit:

Messrs. Anderson of Madison, Anderson of St. Landry, Berry, Blanks, Cotton, Couvillion, Dougherty, Drake, Gilmore, Griffin, Head, Hawkins, Hodge, Jack, Joffrion, Johnston from Rapides, Johnston from Iberville, Lacy, Mayo, McCranie, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Osborne, Peck, Pitre, Pressley, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll, and Taylor of Union.

On motion of Mr. Anderson of St. Landry, the House proceeded to the election of its Clerk.

Mr. Taylor of Carroll, nominated Mr. A. H. Isaacson.

On the call of the roll the following members, to-wit:

Messrs. Anderson of Madison, Anderson of St. Landry, Berry, Blanks, Cotton, Couvillion, Drake, Dougherty, Gilmore, Griffin, Hawkins, Head, Jack, Joffrion, Johnston from Rapides, Johnston from Iberville, Lacy, Mayo McCranie, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Osborne, Peck, Pitre, Pressley, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll, and Taylor of Union, 29 members, voted for A. H. Isaacson, who was declared unanimously elected, when he was qualified by taking the oath of office as tendered by the Speaker.

The House then proceeded to the election of Assistant Clerk.

Mr. Cotton nominated E. W. Halsey of Rapides, and Mr. Lacy nominated Dr. M. Estes of Caddo.

The roll being called the following members were present, to-wit:

Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Berry, Blanks, Cotton, Couvillion, Drake, Hawkins, Hodge, Joffrion, Mayo, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Osborne, Pitre, and Taylor of Carroll, 16 in number, voted for Mr. Halsey,

And Mr. Anderson of Madison, Dougherty, Gilmore, Griffin, Head, Jack, Johnston of Rapides, Lacy, Peck, Pressley, Snider of Bossier, and Taylor of Union, 12 in number, voted for Dr. Estes.

Mr. Halsey having received a majority of the votes cast was declared duly elected Assistant Clerk and qualified by taking the oath as administered by the Speaker.

The House then proceeded to the election of its Warrant Clerk.

Mr. Drake nominated Captain J. Pinckney Smith of Carroll.

The roll being called, the following members, to-wit:

Messrs. Anderson of Madison, Anderson of St. Landry, Berry, Cotton, Couvillion, Dougherty, Drake, Gilmore, Griffin, Hawkins, Head, Hodge, Jack, Joffrion, Johnston from Rapides, Lacy, Mayo, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Osborne, Peck, Pitre, Pressley, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll, and Taylor of Union—27 in number, voted for Captain Smith, who was declared unanimously elected Warrant Clerk of the House.

The House then proceeded to the election of its Sergeant-at-Arms.

Mr. Anderson of St. Landry, nominated Mr. J. H. Peralta.

The roll being called the following members, to-wit:

Messrs. Anderson of Madison, Anderson of St. Landry, Berry, Blanks, Cotton, Couvillion, Dougherty, Drake, Gilmore, Griffin, Hawkins, Head, Hodge, Jack, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Lacy, Mayo, McCranie, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Osborne, Peck, Pitre, Pressley, Snider of Bossier, Tay-

lor of Carroll, Taylor of Union—29 in number voted for Mr. Peralta, who was declared unanimously elected Sergeant-at-Arms of the House. He was thereupon qualified by taking the oath as administered by the Speaker.

On motion of Mr. Anderson of St. Landry, the election of Door-Keeper was dispensed with.

Mr. Anderson of St. Landry, offered the following resolution :

Resolved by the House, the Senate concurring, That the Senate be invited to meet the House of Representatives in the Hall of their sessions on Wednesday, the 20th day of January, 1864, at 1 o'clock, p. m., for the purpose of counting the votes cast in the last general election for Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, and other officers.

Which resolution was adopted.

Mr. Taylor of Carroll, moved that the House adopt for its government the rules adopted by the House at its last session, which motion was carried.

On motion of Mr. Johnston of Iberville, the following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That one hundred copies of the rules of the House of Representatives together with the Constitution of the State of Louisiana, as amended by the Convention of 1861, be published in pamphlet form, in English, for the use of the members of the House.

On motion of Mr. Jack, the following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That the execution of the resolution for printing the Rules of the House and Constitution of the State be entrusted to the Committee on Printing.

Mr. Taylor of Carroll, offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That those members of the last House of Representatives who are from those Parishes where it has been impossible to hold elections in consequence of the presence of the enemy, and who are now outside of the enemy's lines and able to attend be admitted to seats upon this floor as representatives from those Parishes.

Mr. Elam offered the following amendment which was accepted, to-wit :

To strike out the words "outside of the enemy's lines and able to attend," and to insert in lieu thereof the following words: Present, to-wit : Messrs. J. Foulhouse, of Plaquemine, Robert Mott, of Orleans, J. B. Robertson of St. Mary, and E. F. Morehead of Ascension.

Said resolution as amended was adopted.

Mr. Gilmore of Caddo, offered the following resolution, which was adopted, to-wit :

Resolved, That the clergy of Shreveport be invited by the Clerk to open the sessions of this House with prayer.

On motion of Mr. Griffin, leave of absence was granted to Mr. Snider of Bossier.

On motion of Mr. Head, the House adjourned until to-morrow at 10 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 20th. 1864.

The House met at 10 o'clock, a. m., Hon. J. B. Elam, Speaker, in the Chair.

Present—Messrs. Anderson of Madison, Anderson of St. Landry, Berry, Blanks, Cotton, Couvillion, Dougherty, Drake, Foulhouse, Gilmore, Hawkins, Head, Jack, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Lacy, Mayo, Mott, McCranie, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Morehead, Peck, Perkins, Pitre, Pressly, Robertson, Taylor of Carroll, and Taylor of Union.

The proceedings of the day were opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Tucker of Shreveport.

The Hon. Speaker, in a brief address, returned thanks to the House for the distinguished honor conferred upon him.

Mr. Pressley moved to reconsider the vote of the House on the resolution adopted yesterday, to admit Messrs. Foulhouse, Robertson, Mott and Morehead to seats as members of the House.

On motion of Mr. Taylor of Carroll, the motion of Mr. Pressley was laid on the table.

Whereupon Messrs. Jas. Foulhouse of Plaquemine, J. B. Robertson of St. Mary, Robert Mott of Orleans, E. F. Morehead of Ascension, and E. A. Perkins of Calcasieu, received the oath required by law as administered by the Speaker, and took their seats.

Mr. Taylor of Carroll offered Joint Resolutions "Pledging the resources of Louisiana for the further prosecution of the war," which were read and referred to the Committee on Federal Relations.

Mr. Mott introduced a resolution to refer to a joint special committee of the Senate and House the report of the Commissioners appointed by the Governor to distribute the fund of \$300,000 appropriated by the General Assembly at its Special session, in June, 1863, for the relief of exiles driven from New Orleans and vicinity by the Federal authorities.

The resolution was laid over under the rules.

Masters James Guion and Peter Tally, were appointed pages to the House.

On motion of Mr. Johnston, the resolutions adopted yesterday concerning the printing of Rules for the use of the House was reconsidered and indefinitely postponed.

Mr. Mott introduced a bill entitled, "An act to provide for the payment of the members, officers, and contingent expenses of the General Assembly."

Which was read, and the rules being dispensed with, was read a second time by its title, engrossed, read a third time by its title, and passed.

On motion of Mr. Taylor of Carroll, the House took a recess until 15 minutes before one o'clock, p. m.

Upon re-assembling the call of the roll was dispensed with.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.

A message was received from the Senate through Mr. Wagner, its Secretary, informing the House that the Senate had organized by the appointment of the Hon. John Moore of St. Martin, as its President for the time being; Mr. W. F. Wagner as its Secretary, and Mr. Oscar Arroyo as its Assistant Secretary.

The Senate also requested the concurrence of the House in a resolution to appoint a joint committee of members of each House to wait on the Governor, and inform him that the General Assembly is now organized and ready to proceed to business, and receive any communication he might wish to make.

And that Messrs. Clark and Texada had been appointed on the part of the Senate.

The resolution was adopted by the House.

On motion of Mr. Anderson of St. Landry, who with Messrs. Jack, and Anderson of Madison, were appointed members of said joint committee on the part of the House.

The committee performed the duty assigned to them, and reported that the Governor would communicate with the House in a few minutes, and were discharged.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

A message was received from his excellency the Governor, through J. Hamilton Hardy, Esq., Assistant Secretary of State, which was read as follows:

*Gentlemen of the Senate and
of the House of Representatives :*

I am enabled to state the aggregate receipts and expenditures of the State during the past year, the details of which will be found in the Reports of the Auditor and Treasurer. The receipts from all sources amount to six million seven hundred and six thousand seven hundred and seventy-four dollars and five cents. The expenditures have been two million six hundred and eighty-nine thousand one hundred and forty-two dollars and seventy-one cents.

The expenses of the State Government, both military and civil, have been mainly defrayed by the issue of Treasury Notes. In consequence of the Acts suspending the compulsory collection of taxes, no part of the ordinary revenue of the State has been exigible for her expenditures. These taxes, which must ultimately be paid, are accumulating each year. Meanwhile the issues of Treasury notes by the State assists in inflating the currency, and consequently in depreciating it. This state of things must be remedied or we shall experience disastrous results.

The surest remedy is to extirpate the disease by destroying its cause. The pe-

riod of suspension by the last Act expires with this month. I recommend that it be not renewed, and that the issue of Treasury Notes cease as soon as practicable. The people were never better able to pay their taxes than now. In truth, they will appear comparatively light, so rapidly do men's minds become accustomed to the exaggerated prices which now prevail. Every dollar that is paid into the Treasury doubly lightens the burden. It spares the State the necessity of issuing one, and thus reacts on prices by lessening the volume of the currency. The rapid issue of notes by the States and municipal corporations has assisted in the inflation attendant upon the excessive issues of the Confederate Treasury. We can materially modify the pernicious results of that excess by abandoning the system of continued issues.

If this recommendation be adopted, it will be necessary to resort to the sale of Bonds to supply the deficiency of revenue occasioned by our inability to collect taxes in that portion of the State which is occupied by the enemy. The Bonds of this State ought to command a high premium. Notwithstanding the increased expenditures of the State during the war, the increase of bonded debt is comparatively insignificant. The only issues of Bonds made, are those provided by your Acts, passed at the first session of the twenty-seventh General Assembly, January 13th and 23d, 1862. Of the seven millions authorized by the latter Act, two millions were obtained by the issue of Treasury Notes and five millions by the sale of eight per cent. Bonds. Two hundred and twenty-six thousand dollars of these Bonds remain unsold. Of the one million of six per cents. authorized by the first Act, seventy-four thousand dollars are unsold. When it is remembered that two and a half millions of these sums were paid to the Confederate Government for the War Tax of this State, it will be admitted that the expenditures proper of the State have been kept within reasonable bounds.

I may add in passing, that this is the only issue of Treasury Notes, prior to those authorized by your Act passed at Opelousas. As I was desirous of urging upon the General Assembly the policy of non-issue hereafter, I requested the Treasurer not to pay out any notes under the twenty million Act, except when such payment was compulsory. It is estimated that only one million and a quarter of that series of notes have been emitted.

The volume of the currency may be still further diminished by funding the State Treasury Notes now in circulation. It will be seen from the statement just made, that bonds to the amount of three and a quarter million of dollars would be required for that purpose. The funding to be effective must be compulsory, and the rate of inter-

est of this class of bonds might properly be made lower than that usually given by the State. No question occupies so large a share of public attention now as that of our currency. Experience has taught us that the laws of finance cannot be violated without detriment both to public and private interests. We are passing through the same ordeal that taxed the patriotism and fortitude of our revolutionary sires. Superabundant issues of paper money have produced inflation of prices, injured the public credit, and stimulated misgivings of our future ability to discharge our debt. Let us correct the evil before its proportions attain a magnitude that will defy remedy.

The acts passed at the extra session held at Opelousas have not been printed, except in newspaper slips, and are therefore not susceptible of being bound. In order that they shall be accessible to the public, they must be printed in the usual book form. They are few in number and may very well be included in the same binding with the acts of the last session. I suggest that the Journals of the present session and all other matter except the laws, be printed in the English language only. This will save much useless expense and useful paper.

Soon after your last adjournment, I appointed Messrs. W. J. McCulloch and Oscar Arroyo, Commissioners under the Act appropriating three hundred thousand dollars for the relief of our fellow-citizens who had been expelled from New Orleans.—They proceeded to Mobile and dispensed such portion of this generous bounty as was demanded by the necessities of the refugees. I submit herewith their report, from which it will appear that the appropriation was not exhausted. After their return, I received urgent representations from some of our fellow citizens sojourning in Mobile, that new cases had been presented for relief. I therefore appointed Judge Victor Burthe, Commissioner, to apply the residue to the relief of those for whose benefit the act was passed.

The report of the Commissioner of Public Lands will be submitted to you. It is fortunate that the services of so efficient an officer were secured in the organization of this important bureau. His entire administration has been characterized by marked fidelity and intelligence, the full effects of which will be more conspicuous when the return of peace shall enlarge his field of operations.

By an act of your last session, the Judges of the Supreme Court were required to hold a term at Shreveport for the trial of criminal and other enumerated causes. I have been informed there are many appealed causes, especially of the trials of slaves throughout the State, in which the appeal was taken before the passage of your act, in consequence of which, probably, the Clerks have not felt that your en-

actment, requiring the return to be made to the Shreveport term, was obligatory upon them. These, and all criminal causes in similar condition, should be disposed of. When the parties accused are in prison, means of removal are not always at the command of the Sheriffs, and the example of the enemy at the Penitentiary exhibits too much of sympathy with felons, to leave to him the option of a jail delivery. I therefore recommend that in all criminal causes that have been, or that shall be tried pending the war, the appeals shall be returnable to the Judges at Shreveport.

And here I feel impelled to call your attention to a remarkable anomaly in the law of this State. In no slaveholding State, except Louisiana, is a negro competent to testify against a white person. In New England, and the other extreme radical States of the North, where fanatical abolitionism has obtained ascendancy, the negro is considered not inferior to the white, and his testimony is equally admissible. The same legal rule prevails in Louisiana, provided the negro be free. The enemy, who now occupies a portion of our territory, finds the rule already existing in our recognized law, and marvels at the fatuity that has retained it. In all other slaveholding States, white persons are alone competent to testify for or against white persons, and all negroes and molattoes, bond and free, can testify only where that class of persons are parties. Why should a different rule prevail here? Is there anything in the political conduct of the anti-slavery States, that recommends to us the adoption of their legislation upon a subject directly connected with the institution they are now seeking to destroy? Are we content to be ranged on such a subject by the side of Massachusetts, and find ourselves separated from our co-sovereigns of the Confederacy, and indeed, from those slave States that have adhered to the Union? Have we failed to appreciate the importance of a rule, the universality of whose prevalence in all slaveholding communities, attests its adaptation to that condition of society? Let us hasten to conform to the spirit of our institutions. Let us cease to imitate those who, in their efforts to amalgamate the privileges of two races, have with sagacious cunning removed gradually the distinctive legal marks that operate as barriers—first by admission to the witness stand, next to the jury, then to the ballot box and the bed. "No negro or molatto, bond or free, shall be a competent witness in any case, except in cases in which all the parties are negroes or molattoes, or in which the State is plaintiff, and a negro or molatto, or negroes or molattoes, are defendants." This is the statutory declaration of a neighboring State. The same broad distinction between the white and the black races is made by the legislation

of every State of the Confederacy except our own.

The same necessity and the same propriety exists for remitting all persons of the black race, to the same tribunal for the trial of their offences. If a slave commit an infraction of the criminal law, we have wisely provided a special tribunal where a speedy trial may be had, unincumbered with the forms or the delays that may be interposed in the ordinary and regular routine of courts. But a tender sensitiveness, or a strange infatuation refused or neglected to subject the free negro to the same tribunal. What is the consequence? At this moment free negroes, who committed offences denounced by the law, when the presence of the enemy afforded them licence, cannot be tried, because courts do not sit and the intervention of a grand jury is necessary to accuse them of crime—Some of the States have not provided any special tribunal for the trial of slaves—Others have, and have uniformly enacted that "free negroes and molattoes shall be tried as slaves are directed to be tried, before two Justices of the Peace and five slave-holders," as is the law in another neighboring State, the number of Justices and slaveholders varying only in different jurisdictions.

It is of great importance that the Courts should hold their regular sessions. In the present condition of the country, men's minds become accustomed to look to the military power as the arbiter of disputes and the regular channels of justice are obstructed by neglect to open the courts. I submit whether some change may not be made in the jury law, so that certain classes of cases may be tried without the liability to delay or postponement which now exists. So large a proportion of the population is now engaged in public service, that difficulty may be experienced in obtaining juries, for the trial of criminal causes, without an amendment of the law repealing all exemptions.

The impressment of private property by Confederate officers, has occasioned great annoyance and greater injury to the citizens of this State. The patriotism of our people—their desire to place no hindrance to the Confederate Government in the execution of all measures necessary for the efficient prosecution of the war, has in the majority of cases caused them to stifle their complaints, and consequently the misconduct of the subordinate officers, who have made these impressments, has not come to the knowledge of their superiors. Neither the General commanding the Department, nor District, will tolerate any abuse of this tremendous power, which necessity has, (in the opinion of Congress,) required to be lodged in the hands of military authorities, and if the Generals should have otherwise interpreted their obligations, it is my right,

and that of every Executive of a State, to interpose the shield of her protection over her citizens. Every case of illegal impressment that I have had occasion to bring to the notice of these Generals has been promptly redressed, and I invite citizens who have been injured by such unauthorized conduct of Confederate officers to report the particulars, properly authenticated.

One reason of the latitude allowed or exercised by impressing officers, is, that the provisions of the law of Congress, are not known or understood. That law does not impose the schedule prices of the commissioners upon those who have raised, grown or produced, the property sought to be impressed, or upon those holding the same for their own use or consumption, or when it is held or has been purchased not for sale or speculation. In these cases, it is the duty of the impressing officer to cause the value of the property to be ascertained by two disinterested citizens, one of whom is to be selected by the officer, and the other by the owner or agent of the property, and in case of their disagreement, these two shall choose an umpire, whose decision shall be final, and this applies to impressed property, whether the absolute ownership or the temporary use thereof only, is required. Even in those cases where the schedule prices are obligatory, viz: when the property impressed is in the hands of any person *other* than those above mentioned, if the owner and the officer differ as to the quality of the articles impressed, thereby making it fall within a higher or lower price named in the schedule, the same process is permissible, of each selecting a disinterested citizen to determine the quality of the article, who may select an umpire as in the other class of cases.

I doubt if a single instance has occurred in this State, of reference to local appraisers to fix the value of impressed property. The schedule prices have been assumed by the officers as a limitation, alike obligatory upon the producer and the speculator, whereas, the law intended that an entirely different mode of valuation should be pursued in the two cases. The power or right to impress is besides confined to a particular class of officers, and is to be exercised by them only in particular emergencies.—Whenever the exigencies of any army in the field are such as to make impressments of forage, articles of subsistence, or other property, absolutely necessary, then such impressment may be made by the officers, whose duty it is to furnish such forage, articles of subsistence, or other property, for such army. The only other legal impressment that can be made, is that authorized by the 4th sec. of the act, viz: whenever the Secretary of War shall be of opinion that it is necessary to take private property

for public use, by reason of the impracticability of procuring the same by purchase, so as to accumulate necessary supplies for the army, or the good of the service in any locality, he may, by general order through the proper subordinate officers, authorize such property to be taken for the public use, the compensation due the owner for the same to be determined, and the value found as provided for in the first and second sections, which contain the provisions I first adverted to above. The schedule prices do not apply to such impressments.

The act further declares that there shall not be impressed under any circumstances the property necessary for the support of the owner and his family, and to carry on his ordinary agricultural and mechanical business.

Congress thus endeavored to take reasonable precaution for the protection of property. Although the exercise of this harsh power has been hedged in with these restrictions, experience has proved them to be futile in regulating the action of the officers. The law is a most unwise one, and should be repealed. Its effect has been to oppress the citizens, and to afford idle and inefficient officers a means of obtaining without labor or trouble, that which could and ought to have been provided by their timely exertion and forethought.

While, however, the law continues on the statute book, it is necessary to guard against abuses perpetrated under cover of its provisions. Whenever the rights secured to the property owner by its terms are disregarded, it requires the trial of the offender before the military courts of the corps to which he belongs, on complaint made by the owner. If it is an officer who has violated these provisions of the law, he must, on conviction, be cashiered, and placed in the ranks. It is proper and necessary to denounce these illegal impressments with additional penalties, and to subject the officers or privates guilty of them to criminal prosecutions in the State tribunals. In determining the punishment to be inflicted, it will be necessary to remember that fines would but provoke the derision of the culprits, and ordinary imprisonment might be acceptable as a furlough.

You need not be deterred from legislative action, by apprehensions that such a measure would interfere with the proper and efficient military administration of the General who commands in our State. The views I have expressed are in entire accord with his own, and the legislation recommended will, in his opinion, assist him in preventing demoralization of troops and protecting the people.

Some instances have occurred of parties harboring or concealing conscripts and deserters, and others of giving information to

jayhawkers of the situation of our troops. There is no State law for the punishment of these miscreants, nor indeed do these acts fall within the terms of any defined offence. It is very desirable that such conduct should be defined as a crime, and that the mode of trial should be as summary as it can be made, consistent with existing constitutional rights.

The invasion of the interior by the enemy last spring, produced no serious results except the loss of property. The hope, with which he is accustomed to delude the slaves, proved here, as elsewhere, too powerful for that credulous class to entirely resist. Notwithstanding, however, the inducements offered to them to abandon their masters and their homes, the number that yielded was comparatively small.—The larger portion of those who trusted to his promises soon had occasion to repent their confidence. The women and children were abandoned to starvation and a cruel death. When our forces recaptured Brasher with its garrison, over two thousand of these helpless creatures were found there, and as many more at other points, in the most abject destitution. Their masters were notified to reclaim them, but disease superinduced by want of food and by exposure, had thinned their numbers, and nearly all those who had survived died from its effects on their return journey.

Nor was this brutal neglect the only circumstance that demonstrated the hollowness of their professions for the slaves. A systematic robbery was committed by the Federal soldiers, of their money. In numerous instances the slave had hoarded his earnings in specie. The soldier usually approached him with a benevolent inquiry, touching that interesting fact, and was promptly informed of the extent of his possessions. He was then told that the inquirer was charged with the custody of these treasures, all of which would be sacredly preserved, and re-delivered when they reached their destination. If this assurance failed to establish confidence, as was sometimes the case, he was forcibly despoiled of his money. Where the savings of the slave consisted of Confederate Treasury Notes, he was told that they were worthless, but that by delivering them, he should receive gold instead. The women who characteristically bedecked themselves in their jewelry to hail the day of their deliverance, were violently deprived of it. When they had thus obtained possession of all the negroes had, they abandoned the women and children to hunger and suffering. It is well to recite these disgusting details, not for your information, but that the world may know the diabolical perfidy of the people, who have not even the merit of sincerity, in their asseverations of concern for the welfare of that class, whose champions they assume to be.

Their treatment of the slaves has been so uniform in every locality, where the enemy has made a lodgment, that its adoption must have been preconcerted, or is the effect of indifference. The slave, seduced or torn from the comforts of his home, where provision for nursing in sickness was always made, has been treated by the enemy like the beasts of burthen. Massed together in pens and huts, with insufficient clothing and food, exposed to hardship and weather, a rapid and sure disease fastened itself upon them. The frightful mortality among them has been viewed by their pseudo friends with indifference, or secret delight. The living have been as effectually separated as the dead. One of their habitual themes in the denunciation of our system is the sundering of family ties. No such scene was ever witnessed in a slave mart of the South, as have been seen on the banks of our rivers during this war.

The enemy on some occasions having whole families hanging on his march, has resorted to deception and fraud, or force, as was the humor of the moment, to effect his purposes. Finding these families clinging together, when he reached the water courses, he enticed them on boats, and then driving the men back on shore, conveyed their wives and children to the Government plantations, as they denominate the abandoned estates of our citizens, while the men were marched to the depots of their black troops. In no instance have the families been permitted to remain together, nor will they see each other until their masters, after peace, shall have opportunity to ascertain their places of exile. Left to themselves, they would never find each other, so effectually have their deliverers concealed their different destinations.

The number of slaves killed by neglect and brutality of the enemy, will equal the loss of life of whites in both armies. When in future years the statistics of this war shall be accurately known, the civilized nations of the world will stand aghast at this unparalleled loss of human life. They will then appreciate the misery which has been wrought by the obstinate pursuit of a visionary scheme of emancipation, and they will then discover that what is now termed the moral sense of the world on the question of slavery, has become vitiated by an ill-placed faith in purely theoretical teachings. The purposes of this war will then appear in their naked deformity, and the tribunal of enlightened Europe will finally award justice to the Confederate cause.

For the present the opinion of other nations does not concern us. The visions of foreign intervention that have floated before our expectant eyes are dispelled.—We must fight this battle alone. We must acquire our independence with our own strong arms, by endurance, and through

suffering, or we shall lose everything that ennobles manhood and endears existence.

If anything were needed to nerve us for such a struggle, it may be found in the contemplation of the fact, that permanent independence or prolonged vassalage are the only alternatives left us. It is not the recognition of a merely nominal supremacy that the enemy seeks, much less the re-establishment of a constitutional bond.—Whatever device was at first adopted by him to arouse the passions, and cement the energies of the Northern people, no doubt now exists of his real purpose. The mask has been removed. States are to be obliterated. A centralized despotism is to crush their liberties in its chilly grasp.—Their inhabitants are to suffer the penalties of unsuccessful rebellion—loss of property, of political, social and personal privileges. If any one mourns the loss of property in consequence of this war, let him remember that if it ends otherwise than in our independence, he will never have any again. The planter will never again till the ground, except as a serf—the merchant will never more reckon his gains—the professional man will find his name stricken from the roll of competition—and the artisan will be as effectually prohibited from his industrial pursuit as if he were benumbed by palsy. A claim to participate in government will be mocked at. Who would have the temerity to ask for that, when he was denied even the right to labor, or saw its fruits grasped by his task-master? Once bend your neck to that yoke, with all the degrading and vexatious tyrannies of its vulgar domination, and you will then realize what is the terrible import of subjugation, relieved only by the desperate and lurid hope of revolt.

To avert that, no sacrifice is too great, The men, the means, all the resources of every State should be cheerfully contributed to the common cause. Every one must render his service, either in augmenting the military strength of the Confederacy, or in developing by industrial energy those material resources, which are as indispensable for the efficiency of the army as are trained soldiers. Congress should repeal the law authorizing substitutes to be furnished by conscripts, and thus add to the numbers of the army. It has already provided for the formation of companies of minute men for local defence, to be composed only of those not within conscript age. Portions of these, and such volunteer organizations as have been or may hereafter be made under the State law, can render efficient service as garrisons to posts, and for such other detached service as may be required, which will relieve the commander from the necessity of separating parts of a regiment, each from the other, and thus weakening his organization. I urge upon the people of this State the necessity and feasibility of

strengthening our local defences by the formation of these corps.

I have not judged it expedient or necessary to call out the militia, but delay or laggardness in augmenting the local force, either by companies of minute men, or by a more rapid increase of volunteering under the State law, may at any time impose upon the Executive the necessity of resorting to this measure.

I have continued the same policy in the disposition of the State troops, that I adopted in the beginning, and which for a brief period only was interrupted while the Opelousas militia act was in force. That policy was to employ all the energies of the State Government, in rendering assistance to the Confederate Generals, in the prosecution of their military plans, and to apply all our resources to the support, equipment and maintenance of their armies. In a word, to incorporate the State forces as rapidly as they were organized in the Confederate army, thus placing the whole military strength under one head, and giving to it unity and compactness. I did not adopt this policy because of my deficiency in military experience, although of that fact no one was so sensible as myself, but because of the manifest absurdity of attempting to accomplish military results with two armies under commanders entirely independent of each other, operating in the same field against a disciplined enemy. To whatever General was entrusted the defence of our State, I have given my hearty and unflagging support—in the supply of arms, of munitions of war, of commissariat and quartermaster stores—by loans from the military fund entrusted to me, by the prosecution of military works at the sole expense of the State—not hindered by a fear of extravagance, where the object manifestly justified it, but at the same time keeping a watchful eye upon expenditures.—Thus the resources of the State and of the Confederate Governments are concentrated upon the one object of augmenting our military strength.

And it is only when this military strength is thus concentrated and exerted, that great results can be legitimately expected. The people must awake to the consciousness, that spasmodic efforts made on the spur of imminent danger, will not suffice for the defense of any country. Trained troops, compacted by discipline, and hardened by probation for a soldier's duty, must be our reliance, if we would have success.

Organizations of minute men and State volunteers will form a reserve corps, which can be made efficient for the purposes I have before stated, and for local assistance in resisting raids. Sufficient numbers of these must be obtained voluntarily, or legislation may enforce the rendition of these services for the defense of the country.

This defense includes and involves the raising of food, the manufacture of cloth-

ing, and the development of the resources needed for war purposes, and the maintenance of women and children. REGARD must be had for these essentials, and provision made not to interfere with them to a serious extent, by the exemption acts which have to be enacted from time to time, and by details. The exemption or detail of a sufficient number of artisans, and of men needful to superintend the raising of crops, will ensure to the army its necessary clothing and subsistence, and their places in the ranks may very well be filled by the youthful and healthy traders who throng every village in the Confederacy.

The retention by the States of their officers for the administration of State affairs, rests upon a different footing. In the exemptions, specified by the State law in force at the time the Exemption Act of Congress was passed, the Assessors were inadvertently omitted, and they were accordingly claimed to be conscripts. I had no difficulty in obtaining a detail of them, but a claim by the Confederate Government of the right to the compulsory service of any State officer, is wholly inadmissible in theory, and very dangerous in practice. If the Confederate Government can conscribe one officer of the State, it may conscribe another. If its Assessor is liable to the military service of the Confederate Government, so is its Governor, its Legislators, its Judges. Concede the principle, and the State Government may at any moment be subverted by the central authority, and the whole machinery of its administration be destroyed. It is because we claimed that the States were sovereign, and could not be impeded in the exercise of their independent functions, that our Confederacy was formed. This war is in vindication of that principle, and we must guard against its infringement, if we would avoid the renewal at some future day of that absorption of power, which caused the destruction of the old government. No State should permit a claim by the Confederate Government to the services of its officers in any department, to pass without a denial of its rightfulness. No State can permit the enforcement of that claim without danger of self-destruction. It is important to avoid establishing precedents for the exercise of dangerous powers.

As our lines have contracted, large numbers of slaves have been drawn into the interior, creating a superabundance of that kind of labor in localities far removed from the probable theatre of the enemy's operations. We have been too backward hitherto in using our slaves in the various employments wherein their auxiliary services might be useful for military purposes. The enemy early in the war supposed that we would employ the slaves as teamsters and laborers. He foresaw the

advantage to be derived from such use of that population, trained and disciplined already to these duties. That policy has been adopted only in the eastern army, and there to a limited extent. It is necessary to adopt it now throughout the Confederacy. In the late message of Mr. Lincoln, boast is made that he has one hundred thousand of our slaves now in military service, of whom one-half have arms in their hands. White men will fight our battles, and their number will be greatly augmented by relieving them from the performance of duty as teamsters, laborers, and the like, and placing slaves in their stead. The male slaves should be removed from exposed districts. Their capture by the enemy is a double loss, since they add to his numbers, and diminish our resource for this auxiliary service. The abstraction of a large portion of the slave labor from those parts of the country where crops can be cultivated, would interfere with the production of food, and it is therefore to the slaves who have been driven from their homes by the enemy that the military authorities must chiefly look for a supply for military labor.

Large numbers of our citizens have been forced to abandon their homes as the enemy advanced, or to remain in his lines, subjected to his brutal tyranny. They have preferred the former and more manly course, and have sought, with their slaves, a refuge in the neighboring State of Texas. Many have brought, or sent back painful accounts of their reception. Between two States, geographically contiguous, and closely united by ties of common interest and reciprocal dependence, there should exist the most enlarged comity. The citizens of Texas and Louisiana have every inducement to cultivate mutual respect, confidence and amity. The Texan may boast of honorable service rendered in the defence of Louisiana, as the Louisianian is justly proud of the conspicuous part he has performed in the defence of Virginia, and of every State east of the Mississippi. While each may vie with the other in recounting his deeds of valor, there should not be wanting the exercise of another knightly quality—the duty of hospitality.

I despatched an agent to Richmond early last year to obtain the arms and munitions imported by me from Europe, which had come into the possession of the Confederate Government. An inconsiderable part of them only was obtained by him, and these were forwarded. When they reached Jackson, Miss., they were immediately forwarded to Vicksburg by order of Gen. Pemberton, since he considered it a safer place to store ordnance than Jackson. In the report of the agent, it is stated that on his arrival at that place in May, he found that Gen. Pemberton had ordered the rifles stopped and sent to Vicksburg for safety,

and that he afterward made personal application to that officer for their delivery, which he refused, and they remained there and were surrendered to the enemy.

The accompanying report of the Adjutant General, and the documents appended, will give you more detailed information of the number of arms purchased, and of all other matters pertaining to the military administration of the State. Efforts have been made to ascertain the exact number of troops furnished by Louisiana to the Confederate army. Official figures are not yet obtained, but an approximative estimate of the corps organized independently, coupled with the muster rolls of the corps organized through the State offices, will exhibit the number to be about fifty-two thousand, in which are not included the numerous local volunteer corps that were formed in New Orleans and elsewhere, although they were mustered into Confederate service. Of these local volunteers there have been ten thousand nine hundred and nineteen. The largest vote ever polled in the State was in the fall of 1860, and numbered fifty thousand five hundred and eleven.

The attempt of the enemy, since your adjournment, to repeat the invasion of last spring, was foiled. He has retired his fruitless expedition with the loss of nearly two thousand prisoners, and now occupies but little more of our territory than he did a year ago. To the troops who confronted with cheerful courage his superior numbers; to the officers who led them with alacrity, or awaited his movements without rashness; and to the commanders to whose vigilance, activity and generalship, the State owes her deliverance, our thanks are due.

The reduction of the strongholds, Vicksburg and Port Hudson, necessarily changed military movements in the South-west.—Their loss was serious to the whole country, and especially to Louisiana. The fall of the latter fortress was an inevitable consequence of the surrender of the former.

The country waits with curious interest to learn what justificatory explanation is to be made of the campaign which terminated in that surrender. The defender of Charleston has improvised defences as new exigencies arose. New fortifications have appeared where the enemy expected to find ruins. It was not too much to expect from the high rank of the commander at Vicksburg, a display of skillful generalship, similarly commensurate with his elevated rank.

Great as have been these losses to us, they are not comparable to that sustained by the loss of East Tennessee. The enemy finds himself thus encouraged to persevere, and has obtained an important point as a base for his next campaign. A people struggling for life, liberty and property, can look danger in the face without blanching. By properly estimating, they will learn to surmount it. The suffering of prolonged warfare is as nothing compared with the inappreciable misery of that tyranny which our enemy is vainly hoping to fasten upon us. My confidence in the result is as firm as it was before the first reverse to our arms. Our separation from the North has been long ago pronounced by the voice of Europe to be irrevocable. Despite the malign influence of political complications, the fact of the impossibility of re-union has been acknowledged. We shall not disappoint the just expectations of the world, founded upon their witness of the spirit of our people, and the prowess of our soldiers.

And while we are working out that grand result, let us not forget the principle for which we are fighting. The sovereignty of the States is the great the only bulwark for the Liberty of the citizen. As that principle is weakened or ignored, the absorption of power progresses, and a centralized government inevitably follows, which only lacks occasion for its full development into tyranny. The experience of nations teaches that written constitutions are insufficient safeguards for the liberties of a people, when the people themselves have become ready to fall beneath the heel of a despot. The most conspicuous illustration of that truth is now being furnished by the people from whom we have separated. Warned by their example we must beware of any impulse to derogate from a principle which, so long as it was maintained, secured the blessings of liberty and good government to a great and prosperous nation.

In closing this, my last annual message to the General Assembly, I desire to express through it to my fellow citizens of the State, my acknowledgment of the forbearance they have extended to any errors of my administration. Called to the execu-

tive chair against my own wishes, I found myself suddenly surrounded by new and formidable perils. Plunged into a war of startling magnitude, in which our State was expected to form no inconsiderable part, I deplored that her helm was entrusted to my untutored hand. How weightily I was oppressed with that responsibility, no one can ever fully know. How I have discharged it, posterity will judge, perhaps with less harshness than those of the present day. For myself, I can with sincerity say, that nothing could have sustained me under it, but the conscious rectitude of my intentions, and unabated zeal in my country's cause.

Entering now the retirement I have long coveted, I invoke the blessing of Providence upon our struggle. Passing through the sharp ordeal of war and suffering, may we learn to value the blessings of independence, which at no distant day will be secured to Louisiana, and the States with which she has confederated.

THO. O. MOORE.

Shreveport, Jan. 18th 1864.

The accompanying documents were referred, as follows:

The report of the Adjutant General to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The report of the Commissioner of Public Lands to the Committee on Public Lands and Levees, and

The report of the Board of Administrators of the Insane Asylum, and report of the La. Relief Association, to the Committee on Charitable Institutions.

JOINT SESSION.

At the hour agreed upon, the Senate appeared in the Hall of Representatives, the Hon. John Moore presiding over the Senate.

The Senate roll being called, 12 Senators answered to their names.

After which the roll of the House was called, when 37 Representatives answered to their names.

On motion of Mr. Lott of the Senate, a committee to consist of two Senators and — Representatives was appointed to count the votes cast for Governor, Lieut-Governor, and other State officers at the last general election.

Mr. Anderson of St. Landry, moved that the House concur in said resolution, and that the Speaker appoint on said joint committee on behalf of the House three Representatives. Passed.

And the Speaker appointed Messrs. Chapman, Anderson of St. Landry, and Mott.

And the joint tellers proceeded to count the votes cast in the following Parishes:

For Governor.

For Lt. Governor.

For Sec'y of State.

For Atty General.

Anti-Pub. Act.

Sup. Pub. El.

	Allen.	Stafford.	Polk.	McDonald.	Hodge.	Sandidge.	Pearce.	Rayburn.	Barry.	Bowers.	Ray.	Hardy.	Estes.	Zim.	Eastin.	R. Ray.	Herford.	Goode.	Defreese.	T. J. Sommes.	Muse.	L. D. Simms.	Noise.	Zim.	Peralta.	Defreese.	Hunter.	Robertson.	Defreese.	W. H. N. Ma- gruder.	P. A. Walker.	D. Avery.
Avoyelles.	385	23	3				407	247	113			186	188	223	2	229		405							404				405	405		
Iberville.	331	64					312	1				129	190		5	10		370							370				369	377		
Bossier.	233	67					635					218	137		5			306							310				308	307		
Caddo.	335	141					159					159	12		9			652							665				637	666		
Catastien.	162						142					127	4					158							151				168	157		
Caldwell.	149	28		84			192					104	23	50	4			156		69					254				253	258		
Carroll.	174	8					192					127	19	79				193							193				193	192		
Catahoula.	200	16		139			246					537	173		8			226							240				241	237		
Claborne.	576	146					409		32									705							707				698	696		
Concordia.	78						505					119	354		2			506							505				503	506		
DeSoto.	506	11																														
East Feliciana.																																
Franklin.	185	65		1			187		63			70		155	3			238							237				238	245		
Iberville.	20						20					18						20							19				19	20		
Jackson.	270	60					258		4			162	40	6				261							260				242	255		
Livingston.	225				8		229					206						70		1	1	2	1	7					102	78	25	1
Madison.	20						25					19						25							25				25	27		
Morehouse.	281	9					290					213		9	1	36		291							293				291	294		
Natchitoches.	560	23	1			3	534		13			416	53					569							568				560	580		
Orleans.	218	7					209					2	9	168				211							209				208	215		
Pointe Coupee.	33						32					32						32							32				32	22		
Rapides.	273	131					331			30		321		7	28			367							374				373	375		
Sabine.	355						355					273	73					352							352				353	353		
St. Helena.	515						245					58			2			145							492				140	344		
St. Landry.	80	4					74			241		58	13					73							74				73	73		
St. Tammany.																	11															
Tensas.	112						113					29		19				51							60				52	50		
Union.	372						367					294	31					362							298				357	362		
Vermilion.	299			12			27					159			27			17							170				27	158		
West Feliciana.	272						163					284	10					212							253				252	250		

Mr. Lott of the Senate, on behalf the joint tellers of both Houses, reported that the following was the recapitulation of the votes of the several Parishes of the State, to-wit:

FOR GOVERNOR.

Henry W. Allen received,	7,401
Leroy F. Stafford,	87½
Leonidas Polk,	26
J. W. McDonald,	260
B. L. Hodge,	21
John M. Sandidge,	3

Majority of Henry W. Allen,	6,321
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FOR LIEUT. GOVERNOR.

Benjamin W. Pearce received,	7,119
Hodge Rayburn,	169
Edward Barry,	181
Sam Powers,	30
John Ray,	241

Majority of Benj. W. Pearce,	6,498
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FOR SECRETARY OF STATE.

Pliny D. Hardy received,	4,444
Dr. M. Estes,	1,680
Lewis Zim,	542
E. R. Eastin,	316
R. Ray,	3
Dr. F. M. Herrford,	11

Majority of Pliny D. Hardy,	1,892
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FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL.

Flavillus S. Goode received,	7,170
B. L. Defreese,	1
L. D. Simms,	1
J. H. Muse,	2
T. J. Semmes,	69
E. W. Moise,	7
Lewis Zimm,	7

Majority of F. S. Goode,	7,143
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FOR AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.

Hypolite Peralta received,	7,709
B. L. Defreese,	1
R. A. Hunter,	4
E. W. Robertson,	1

Majority of Hypolite Peralta,	7,703
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FOR STATE TREASURER.

E. L. Defreese received,	7,383
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FOR SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC EDUCATION.

W. H. N. Magruder received,	7,440
P. A. Walker,	25
D. D. Avery,	1

Majority of W. H. N. Magruder,	7,414
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On motion by the same Senator, the above was adopted as the action of the tellers on the part of the Senate.

On motion by Mr. Anderson of St. Landry, of the House, the above was also adopted as the action of the tellers on the part of the House.

Henry W. Allen, having obtained the majority of the votes cast, was proclaimed by the President pro tem. of the Senate duly elected Governor of the State of Louisiana for the term of four years from the fourth Monday of January instant.

Benjamin W. Pearce, having obtained the majority of votes cast, was proclaimed by the President pro tem. of the Senate duly elected Lieutenant-Governor of the State of Louisiana for the term of four years from the fourth Monday of January instant.

Pliny D. Hardy, having obtained the majority of the votes cast, was proclaimed by the President pro tem. of the Senate duly elected Secretary of State for the term of four years from the fourth Monday of January instant.

Flavillus S. Goode, having obtained the majority of the votes cast, was proclaimed by the President pro tem. of the Senate duly elected Attorney General for the term of four years from the fourth Monday of January instant.

Hypolite Peralta, having obtained the majority of votes cast, was proclaimed by the President pro tem. of the Senate duly elected Auditor of Public Accounts for the term of two years from the fourth Monday of January instant.

B. L. Defreese, having obtained the majority of the votes cast, was proclaimed by the President pro tem. of the Senate duly elected State Treasurer for the term of two years from the fourth Monday of January instant.

W. H. N. Magruder, having obtained the majority of the votes cast, was proclaimed by the President pro tem. of the Senate duly elected State Superintendent of Public Education for the term of two years from the fourth Monday of January instant.

Mr. Robertson, of the House, by unanimous consent, submitted the following resolution which was adopted:

Resolved by the Senate, (the House concurring.) That a joint committee of two members of this Senate and three members of the House of Representatives be appointed to make such arrangements as will be necessary for the inauguration of Gen. Henry W. Allen, Governor elect of the State of Louisiana.

Whereupon the President pro tem. appointed on the part of the Senate, Messrs. Clark and Reeves.

And the Speaker appointed on the part of the House, Messrs. Robertson, Snyder of Bossier and Gilmore.

On motion of Mr. Abney the Senate withdrew to the Hall of their sittings.

HOUSE PROCEEDINGS RESUMED.

Mr. Mott moved that the rules be suspended, and that the resolution of yesterday relative to the report of commissioners to distribute the fund for the relief of exiles

from New Orleans, be referred to a select committee of three members, which motion prevailing the Speaker appointed as said committee Messrs. Mott, Foulhouze and Cotton.

Mr. Gilmore offered a resolution that — copies of the Governor's Message be printed for the use of the House.

Mr. Mott moved to fill the blank with the words one thousand. Lost.

Mr. McCranie moved to fill the blank with the words five hundred. Carried.

Mr. Taylor of Carroll moved that a joint committee, to consist of three members of the House and — members of the Senate be appointed, with the concurrence of the Senate, to wait on the Governor to inquire what has been done in relation to the purchase of cotton and wool cards, as authorized by the Legislature. Adopted.

On motion of Mr. Mott the House adjourned till to-morrow morning at eleven o'clock.

THURSDAY, January 21, 1864.

The House met at 11 o'clock, A. M.

The Hon. J. B. Elam, Speaker, in the chair.

Present—Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Anderson of Madison, Berry, Blanks, Cotton, Couvillon, Dougherty, Drake, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Griffin, Hawkins, Head Hodge, Jack, Jefferson, Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Lacy, Mayo, Mott, McCranie, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Morehead, Osborne, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley, Robertson, Roubieu, Snyder, Taylor of Carroll, and Taylor of Union. 36 members.

After prayer by the Rev. Mr. Mosely of Shreveport, the proceedings of yesterday were read, amended and approved.

On motion of Mr. Foulhouze it was ordered that the names of members present at the calling of the roll, at the commencement of each daily session, be inserted in the minutes of the proceedings, including those of Jan. 20th, 1864.

Mr. F. Roubieu of Natchitoches, was sworn by the speaker and took his seat.

Mr. James M. Wilson was appointed Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms and duly sworn.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.

The Senate, through Mr. Wagner its Secretary, informed the House that the Senate had concurred in the House bill entitled, "An act to provide for the payment of the members, officers, and contingent expenses of the General Assembly.

The Speaker presented a communication from the Auditor of Public Accounts, relative to defaulters, which was, on motion, referred to the Finance committee.

Mr. Myers presented a joint resolution relative to increasing the pay of non-commissioned officers and privates in the service of the Confederate States.

The rules being suspended, the bill was read the first and second time and referred to the committee on Confederate relations.

On motion Mr. McCranie's resolution, that the portion of the Governor's message relative to harboring conscripts and giving information to jayhawkers, be referred to the Judiciary committee, was adopted and referred to the same committee.

Mr. Mott introduced a bill entitled "An act to repeal an act entitled an act to prohibit the distillation of grain, sugar, molasses or cane juice, into spirituous or alcoholic liquors, approved June 20th, 1863."

The bill was read, and the rules being suspended, was read a second time and referred to the Judiciary committee.

Mr. Morehead introduced a bill entitled "An act to provide for the printing of the acts passed by the General Assembly, held in the town of Opelousas, in 1862 and 1863."

The rules being suspended, the bill was read twice, and referred to the committee on Printing.

The same member introduced a bill entitled "An act authorizing Police Juries to regulate the amount of taxes on trades, professions and occupations."

The rules being suspended, the bill was read twice and referred to the Judiciary committee.

Mr. Myers introduced a bill to regulate the pay of Police Jurymen.

The rules being suspended, it was read twice and referred to the committee on the Judiciary committee.

Mr. Griffin introduced a bill for the relief of N. Scopini and Lattier.

The rules being suspended, it was read twice and referred to the committee on Claims.

Mr. Mott introduced a bill for the relief of C. L. Mavor.

The rules being suspended, the same was read twice and referred to the committee on Claims.

Mr. Griffin introduced a bill for the relief of Philo Alden, Sheriff of Bossier.

The rules being suspended, the bill was read twice and referred to the committee on claims.

Mr. Morehead offered a resolution to have the Journal of the House published in one of the newspapers of Shreveport.

Laid over under the rules.

Mr. Taylor of Carroll, called up the resolution relative to appointing a joint committee to make inquiry of the Governor concerning the cotton and wool cards which he was authorized to purchase by the Legislature, and offered the following substitute:

Resolved, That a joint committee of three members from the House and — members from the Senate be appointed to wait upon his Excellency the Governor and inquire of him what action has been taken

in accordance with two acts passed at the last session of the Legislature, the first entitled:

"An act to authorize the Governor to purchase cotton and wool cards for the benefit of the families of soldiers."

The second entitled:

"An act to authorize the Governor to contract for the construction of two iron clad gunboats."

The rules being suspended, the resolution was read three times and adopted.

Messrs. Taylor, Blanks and Berry were appointed on the part of the House as members of said joint committee.

Mr. Foulhouze offered a joint resolution to appoint a committee to consist of — members of the Senate and — members of the House, to call on the General commanding the Trans-Mississippi Department, to obtain information as to the mode of impressment followed in this State by the Confederate officers.

On motion of Mr. Foulhouze, the blank for the members of Representatives was filled with the word five.

The resolution, after its first, second and third reading, was adopted.

The Speaker appointed on said committee:

Messrs. Foulhouze, Cotton, Berry, and Johnston of Rapides.

On motion, Mr. McEnery was added to the committee.

On motion of Mr. Foulhouze, the resolution was reconsidered and amended by striking out the word five and inserting the word seven in lieu thereof.

The resolution, as amended, was adopted.

Mr. F. A. Blanks was added to the committee.

On motion of Mr. Head the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring, That a committee of five members on the part of the House, and — members on the part of the Senate, be appointed to prepare a bill to provide for the construction of Iron Foundries for the benefit of the citizen of this State, and that Professor Clemson be invited to confer with said committee on that subject.

The Speaker appointed on said committee:

Messrs. Head, Murrell, Mayo, Peck, and Pitre.

On motion of Mr. McCranie, the House adjourned until to-morrow morning at 11 o'clock.

FRIDAY, January 22, 1864.

The House met at 11 o'clock.

The Hon. J. B. Elam, Speaker in the Chair.

Present—Messrs. Anderson of Madison,

Anderson of St. Landry, Berry, Blanks, Chapman, Cotton, Couvillon, Dougherty, Drake, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Griffin, Hawkins, Head, Hodge, Jack, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Lacy, Mayo, Mott, McCranie, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Morehead, Newsom, Peck, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley, Robertson, Rou-bien, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll, and Taylor of Union—38 members.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. Mr. Smith, Post Chaplain of the Confederate States Army.

Mr. M. S. Newsom, of St. Helena, was sworn and took his seat as a Representative.

Capt. J. P. McKney Smith, Warrant Clerk elect, was sworn.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

On motion of Mr. Mott, a resolution was adopted to suspend the appointment of the three committees on State Library, Penitentiary and Public buildings.

On motion of Mr. Pressley, a resolution was adopted providing that a copy of each of the newspapers of Shreveport, the "Gazette," the "News," and the "South-Western" be furnished to the respective members of this House.

The same Representative introduced a bill requesting our Senators and Representatives in Congress to procure the repeal of laws exempting persons from the Confederate army on account of property, which was laid over under the rules.

Mr. Mott presented the report of the Commissioner of Public Lands and moved to withdraw from the committee on Public Lands and Levees the informal report which accompanied the Governor's Message and to substitute therefor the report just presented. And no objection being made it was so ordered.

On motion of Mr. McCranie, a resolution was adopted providing that the committee on the Judiciary be instructed to examine "An act to provide for the support of the families of officers, soldiers, non-commissioned officers and marines, &c." approved January 3d, 1863, and to report such amendments to said act as will better protect the State from fraud and dispense the benefits therein provided for to those only who actually need and deserve them.

BILLS INTRODUCED AND REFERRED.

The hereinafter named Representatives, without previous notice given, and with a suspension of the rules first granted, introduced the following entitled bills which underwent their first and second readings and were referred, to-wit:

By Mr. Johnston of Rapides:

An act requiring the Justice of the Peace of each ward in the Parish of Rapides to assess and collect the Parish Taxes of said

Parish. Referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

Also

An act relative to Roads and Levees. Referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. Newsom :

An act granting the right to husband or wife to obtain a judgment of divorce against the other remaining in, or taking the oath of allegiance to the United States Government. Referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. Jack :

An act to authorize the Governor to call into the service of the State free persons of color. Referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. Myers :

An act for the relief of Hannah Perkins. Referred to the committee on Propositions and Grievances.

By Mr. Pressley :

An act to repeal the Militia Law. Referred to the committee on Military Affairs.

By Mr. Mott :

An act to license the distillation of spirituous liquors. Referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

By the same Representative :

An act to suspend the issue of State Treasury Notes. Referred to the committee on Finance.

By Mr. Mayo :

An act to amend an act entitled an act amending the act concerning the Town of Bastrop. Referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. Foulhouze :

An act to call a State Convention. Referred to the committee on amendments to the Constitution.

The Speaker presented a communication from the Auditor of Public Accounts which, on motion, was referred to the committee on Finance.

The Speaker announced that he had appointed Master James Gilpin page to the House.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

The Speaker then announced the Standing Committees of the House as follows :

On Elections.—Messrs. Jack, Desobry, Nunez, Mayo, Myers, Jones and Lacy.

On Claims.—Messrs. Taylor of Carroll, Jewell, McEnery, Murrell, Osborn, Pressley and Snider of Bossier.

On Finance.—Messrs. Mott, Taylor of Carroll, Cotton, Murrell, Hawkins, McEnery, Collins, Anderson of Madison, and Peck.

On the Judiciary.—Messrs. Cotton, Robertson, Mott, Snider of Bossier, Griffin, Foulhouze, Jack, Dougherty and Kernan.

On Contingent Expenses.—Messrs. Head, Chapman, Berry, Anderson of St. Landry, and Newsom.

On Military Affairs.—Messrs. Griffin, Gilmore, Lacy, Taylor of Union, Hodge, McCranie, Pressley, Morehead and Roubien.

On Propositions and Grievances.—Messrs. Berry, Pitre, Perkins, Osborn, Richardson, Hargis and Barry.

On Internal Improvements.—Messrs. Drake, Gore, Helm, Hodge, Jones, Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Blanks and Snyder of Tensas.

On Public Education.—Messrs. Foulhouze, Pressley, Robertson, Morehead, Myers, McCranie, Jack, Johnston of Iberville, and Gore.

On Unfinished Business.—Messrs. Anderson of Madison, Gilmore, Perkins, Barry, Whitaker, Peck, Nunez, Jewell and Hargis.

On Enrollment.—Messrs. Joffrion, Cooley, Griffin, Berry, Barry, Helm and Hawkins.

On Commerce and Manufactures.—Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Gilmore, Whitaker, Johnston of Rapides, Courvillon, Richardson, and Roubien.

On Public Printing.—Messrs. Morehead, McCranie, Griffin, Jack and Jewell.

On Parochial Affairs.—Messrs. Mayo, Whitaker, Newsom, Hargis, Myers and Lacy.

On Confederate Relations.—Messrs. Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll, Berry, Foulhouze, Cooley, Kernan and Robertson.

On Public Lands and Levees.—Messrs. McEnery, Peck, Mott, Collins, Chapman, Dougherty, Drake, Snyder of Tensas, and Anderson of Madison.

On Charitable and Public Institutions.—Messrs. Osborn, Courvillon, Taylor of Union, Perkins and Pitre.

Mr. Morehead called up the resolution relative to the printing of the Journal of the House in a newspaper, and offered the following as a substitute, to-wit :

Resolved, That the committee on printing be authorized to contract for the publication of the journals of this House in one of the Shreveport newspapers, provided that such printing shall not cost more than a dollar and a half per square, which was adopted.

Mr. Mott moved that the memorial and accompanying documents of Jas. E. Wingard be withdrawn from the records of the House.

The motion prevailed.

On motion of the same Representative, the House adjourned until to-morrow morning at 11 o'clock.

SATURDAY, January 23, 1864.

The House met at 11 o'clock, A. M.

The Hon. Speaker Elam in the Chair and present:

Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Anderson of Madison, Berry, Blanks, Chapman

Cotton, Convillion, Dougherty, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Griffin, Hargis, Hawkins, Head, Hodge, Jack, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Lacy, Mayo, Mott, McCranie, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Morehead, Osborne, Peck, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley, Robertson, Ronbien, Snider of Bossier, and Taylor of Carroll. 36 members.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. Mr. Tucker, of Shreveport.

Mr. J. A. Hargis, Representative from the Parish of Winn, was sworn and took his seat.

Mr. Cotton moved that Mr. Samuel Jamison, Representative from the Second Representative District of New Orleans for the last Legislature, be admitted to a seat in this body.

On this motion, Mr. Griffin called for the yeas and nays, when the following Representatives, to wit:

Messrs Anderson of Madison, Anderson of St. Landry, Cotton, Convillion, Dougherty, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Hargis, Hawkins, Head, Hodge, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Lacy, Mott, McEnery, Myers, Morehead, Osborne, Peck, Perkins, Pitre, Robertson, Ronbien, and Taylor of Carroll, 26 Representatives voted yeas.

And Messrs. Berry, Blanks, Griffin, Jack, Mayo, McCranie, Murrell, Newsom, Pressley, and Snider of Bossier, 10 Representatives voted nays.

So the motion prevailed, and Mr. Jamison being present was sworn and took his seat.

On motion of Mr. Morehead, a resolution was adopted authorizing the Auditor of Public Accounts to have a hundred copies of his condensed report printed for the use of the House.

Mr. Morehead Chairman of the Committee on Public Printing, to which was referred the resolution relative to the printing of the Journal in one of the newspapers of Shreveport, reported as follows:

The committee on Public Printing, to whom was referred House resolution authorizing them to contract for the publication of the Journals in one of the Shreveport newspapers, beg leave to report that after mature deliberation they have contracted with the Proprietor of the Shreveport News, for the publication of the Journals in his semi-weekly issue, at \$1 50 per hundred words. All of which is respectfully submitted.

E. F. MOREHEAD,

Ch'man Com. on Pub. Print'g.

And the report was adopted.

Mr. Joffrion, Chairman of the House committee on Enrollment, offered the following as the report of the joint committee of both Houses on Enrollment, which was adopted:

The undersigned, on behalf of the joint

committee on Enrolled Bills of the two Houses of the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, have the honor to report that, in pursuance with the provisions of an act of the State Legislature entitled "An act providing for the performance of the clerical business of the General Assembly," approved March 20th, 1861, the joint committee have met and have appointed the following Clerks, to wit:

Chief Clerk—Mr J. Hamilton Hardy.

Enrolling Clerks—Messrs. E. W. Blake, T. D. McCandless H. Hunsicker, R. J. Lowe, J. G. Arnold, Emmet Rankin, and Samuel Wells.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. H. WEIGHTMAN,
Chairman Senate Committee.

J. C. JOFFRION,
Chairman House Committee.

Whereupon Mr. J. Hamilton Hardy, Chief Clerk, and Messrs. E. W. Blake, T. D. McCandless, H. Hunsicker, R. G. Lowe, J. G. Arnold, Emmet Rankin, and Samuel Wells, Clerks, were sworn by the Speaker.

Mr. Joffrion also reported as correctly enrolled, the House bill entitled:

An act to provide for the payment of the members, officers and contingent expenses of the General Assembly.

Mr. Cotton, Chairman, on behalf of the committee on the Judiciary, reported unfavorably on the following bills:

An act granting the right to husband or wife to obtain a judgment of divorce against the other, remaining in, or taking the oath of allegiance to the United States Government.

An act requiring the Justice of the Peace in each ward in the Parish of Rapides to assess and collect the Parish taxes of said Parish.

An act relative to Roads and Levees.

An act authorizing Police Juries to regulate the amount of taxes, on trades professions and occupations.

The same Representative reported back from the said committee the resolutions relative to provision being made for the support of soldiers' families, &c., with the recommendation of the committee that they be referred to the committee on Military Affairs, and they were, on motion, so referred.

Also, "an act authorizing the Governor to call into the State service free persons of color," with the same recommendation, which was referred to the committee on Military Affairs.

Also, on "an act to regulate the pay of Police Jurymen," favorably, with an amendment, limiting its application to the Parish of Rapides.

Also, on "an act to amend an act entitled an act amending the act concerning the town of Bastrop," favorably.

Mr. Robertson, on behalf of the Representatives appointed on the joint committee

of the two Houses to make arrangements for the inauguration of Gov. Allen, reported as follows:

The undersigned committee on the part of the House, acting in concert with a committee of the Senate appointed to make arrangements for the inauguration of Gov. Allen and Lieut. Gov. Pearce, beg leave to report that the ceremony will take place in the Hall of the House of Representatives on Monday, the 25th inst., at 12 o'clock; and it is proposed by the committee that if the weather is good, and the number of spectators is too great to be accommodated in the Hall, that the ceremony shall take place on the front portico of the Hall of the House of Representatives.

Respectfully submitted,

JNO. B. ROBERTSON,

Chairman House Committee.

Mr. Mott asked and obtained leave to withdraw from the files of the unfinished business of last session the "act for the relief of Thos. H. Pitts" which he offered as a new bill, and the rules being suspended it was read twice and referred to the committee on Lands and Levees.

Mr. Myers introduced a bill entitled:

An act to cut a dam on Bayou Jean de Jean at Cotele.

Read twice and referred to the committee on Lands and Levees.

The hereinafter named Representatives, without previous notice, and the rules being suspended, introduced the following entitled bills, which were read twice and referred respectively as follows:

By Mr. Robertson:

An act to repeal an act entitled an act prescribing an additional oath for electors in certain cases. To the committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. Myers:

An act to exempt the homestead of a property and householder from seizure and sale on execution, in certain cases. To the committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. Newsom:

An act to amend the first section of an act relative to Judicial proceedings against persons in the military or naval service.—To the same committee.

By Mr. Head:

An act to amend an act entitled an act to provide for the support of the families of officers, soldiers and marines, &c., in the service of the Confederate States and of this State. To the committee on Military Affairs.

By Mr. Anderson of St. Landry:

An act to donate to Humble Cottage Lodge, No. 19, Franklin College with its lands, buildings and appurtenances, located at Opelousas, La. To the committee on Public Education.

By Mr. Head:

An act curtailing exemptions from jury

service. To the committee on the Judiciary.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.

The Senate, through Mr. Wagner, its Secretary, informed the House that the President of the Senate had signed the House bill entitled:

An act to provide for the payment of the members, officers and contingent expenses of the General Assembly.

Also inviting the concurrence of the House in bills passed by the Senate entitled:

An act to appropriate \$250,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to pay for the hire or loss of slaves and other property, lost by death or otherwise, whilst in the public service up to the 1st day of December, 1863; and

An act authorizing Recorders to administer oaths.

Also that the Senate had adopted as a substitute for House bill No. 6. a bill entitled:

A joint resolution requesting the Governor to communicate to the Legislature what action he has taken relative to the construction of two iron-clads and the purchase of cotton and wool cards under two acts of the last Legislature.

Also informing the House that the Senate had adopted a resolution to appoint a joint committee to examine the accounts of the Auditor of Public Accounts and Treasurer, and that Senators McDonald, Weightman and Weeks had been appointed on said committee.

And the Speaker appointed on the part of the House, as members of said committee, Messrs. Foulhouze, Anderson of St. Landry, Roubieu, Joffrion and Morehead.

Mr. Morehead, Chairman of the committee on Public Printing, reported on behalf of said committee on bill entitled: "An act to provide for the printing of the acts passed by the General Assembly at the session held in the town of Opelousas in 1862 and '63," favorably.

House bill No. 17 entitled: "Joint Resolution relative to requesting our Congressmen to endeavor to have repealed certain Exemption Laws," was read a second time and referred to the committee on Confederate Relations.

BILLS AT THEIR THIRD READING.

The House proceeded to consider the following bills at their third reading, when An act relative to roads and levees, and An act requiring the Justice of the Peace of each ward in the Parish of Rapides to assess and collect the Parish taxes of said Parish,

Were, on motion, indefinitely postponed. An act granting the right to husband or wife to obtain a judgment of divorce against the other remaining in, or taking the oath of allegiance to the United States Government,

Was laid on the table subject to call.

An act for the relief of Hannah Perkins. Mr. McCranie moved that the bill be indefinitely postponed, which motion was lost.

An amendment was offered to this bill providing that the relief prayed for shall be limited to the children of John Pierce and Hannah Perkins.

Mr. Newsom moved that the amendment be laid on the table, and on his motion called for the yeas and nays. The roll being called the following Representatives to-wit: Messrs. Convillon, Murrell and Newsom, 3 in number, voted yea, and Messrs. Anderson of Madison, Anderson of St. Landry, Berry, Blanks, Collins, Cotton, Dougherty, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Griffin, Hargis, Hawkins, Head, Hodge, Jack, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Jamison, Lacy, Mayo, Mott, McCranie, McEnery, Myers, Morehead, Osborne, Peck, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley, Roubien, Taylor of Carroll, and Taylor of Union, 35 in number, voted nay.

So the motion to lay on the table was lost.

And the amendment being accepted and adopted, Mr. Mott moved to lay the bill on the table, which motion was ruled out of order by the Speaker, whose decision being appealed from by Mr. Morehead, and the appeal seconded, the ruling of the Speaker was sustained by a vote of the House.

The bill being put upon its engrossment, Mr. Mott called for the yeas and nays, when the following Representatives, to-wit:

Messrs. Anderson of Madison, Anderson of St. Landry, Berry, Chapman, Cotton, Dougherty, Gilmore, Hawkins, Head, Hodge, Jack, Johnston of Rapides, Lacy, Mayo, Mott, Myers, Osborne, Peck, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley, Roubien, Snider of Bossier, and Taylor of Carroll, 24 in number, voted yea, and

Messrs. Blanks, Convillon, Foulhouze, Griffin, Hargis, Joffrion, Johnston of Iberville, Jamison, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Morehead, Newsom, and Taylor of Union, 14 in number, voted nay.

So the bill was ordered to be engrossed.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

A message was received from his Excellency, the Governor, through J. Hamilton Hardy, Esq., Assistant Secretary of State, informing the House that he had this day approved and signed the act entitled:

An act to provide for the payment of the members, officers and contingent expenses of the General Assembly.

On motion of Mr. Head, two additional members were appointed by the Speaker on the special committee on Iron Found-

ries, to-wit: Messrs. Foulhouze and Robertson.

On motion of Mr. Mott, the House adjourned until 11 o'clock, A. M., on Monday next.

MONDAY, January 25, 1864.

The House met at 11 o'clock.

The Hon. J. B. Elam, Speaker in the Chair, and present

Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Blanks, Chapman, Cotton, Convillon, Dougherty, Drake, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Griffin, Hargis, Hawkins, Head, Helm, Hodge, Jack, Jewell, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Jamison, Mayo, Mott, McCranie, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Morehead, Newsom, Osborn, Peck, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley, Roubien, Taylor of Carroll, and Taylor of Union—38 members.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. Mr. Mosley of Shreveport.

The journal of Saturday last was read, corrected and approved.

Messrs. T. B. Helm of Rapides, and W. L. Jewell of Pointe Coupee, were sworn and took their seats.

A message was received from the Senate through W. F. Wagner, Esq., its Secretary, asking the concurrence of the House in an act entitled:

An act to punish persons for harboring deserters.

Mr. Taylor of Carroll, moved to dispense with the rules in order to take up the resolution relative to gunboats and cotton and wool cards.

No objection being made the same Representative moved to concur in the substitute for said resolution as adopted by the Senate.

There being no objection the substitute was concurred in.

Mr. Foulhouze asked and obtained leave to withdraw from the files of the unfinished business of last session, a bill entitled:

An act to dispose, by donation, of Franklin College.

With a view of offering a substitute for said bill to-morrow.

On motion of Mr. Myers the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the 73rd Rule of the House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana, be so amended as to read as follows, to-wit:

73. The Chief Clerk shall read the Journal daily from the sheet on which the minutes are written; and after being so read and corrected, the said minutes shall be recorded in the Journal, and copies in the English language only, authenticated by the signature of the Chief Clerk, shall be prepared for delivery at his desk to the printer, by 10 o'clock on the day following that on which it shall have been read.

On motion of Mr. Foulhouze, the Senate was informed that the House would be

ready to receive them at 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ o'clock to-day in this Hall for the purpose of performing the ceremony of inaugurating Governor Henry W. Allen and Lieutenant-Governor Benjamin W. Pearce.

And a message in response was received from the Senate, announcing that that honorable body was ready to join the House as above invited.

The Senate also, through W. F. Wagner, Esq., its Secretary, asked the concurrence of the House in the bill entitled:

An act to repeal the 2nd section of an act entitled "An act relative to the State Library, approved March 15, 1855."

On motion of Mr. Head, it was resolved that one hundred copies of the report of the Surgeon General of the State be printed with the report of the Adjutant General, for the use of the House.

Mr. Myers introduced a bill entitled:

"An act for the relief of John Hewitt."

Which was read and the rules being dispensed with, was read a second time and referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Hawkins introduced a bill entitled:

"An act to repeal in part an act entitled an act to authorize the transfer of a part of the Free School Accumulating Fund, and of the Levee and Drainage Fund, to the General Fund as a loan, approved 20th June, 1863, and for the re-transfer of the same."

The rules being, on motion, suspended, the bill was read twice and referred to the committee on Finance.

JOINT SESSION.

The Senate appeared at the door of the Hall of Representatives, and were invited to seats by the Speaker, in joint session.

The Hon. Lieutenant-Governor Hyams in the Chair, as President of the Senate, and present the following Senators, viz:

Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Butler, Coco, Clarke, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Moore, Reeves, Rogers, Taxada, Wall, Weak and Weightman. 16 Senators.

The roll of the House being also called there were present:

The Hon. J. B. Elam, Speaker, and

Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Anderson of Madison, Berry, Blanks, Chapman, Cotton, Convillion, Dougherty, Drake, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Griffin, Hargis, Hawkins, Head, Helm, Hodge, Jack, Jamison, Jewell, Jeffries, Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Mayo, Mott, McCranie, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Morehead, Newsom, Osborn, Peck, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley, Robertson, Roubien, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll, and Taylor of Union. 42 Representatives.

The following was then ordered to be read as the programme of proceedings agreed upon by the special joint committee on the Inauguration.

INAUGURATION OF GOV. ALLEN.

January 25th, 1864.

Programme.

1st. The two Houses shall meet in the Hall of the House of Representatives at 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ o'clock, A. M., and repair thence to the front of the Capital.

2nd. Roll call of the two Houses.

3rd. Administration of oath to Gov. Allen, and Lieut-Gov. Pearce.

4th. Inaugural by Gov. Allen.

5th. Adjournment of the two Houses to their respective chambers.

SAM CLARKE,

Chm. of Joint Com. of Inauguration.

Mr. Robertson, on behalf of the said committee, conducted the Senate and House to the front of the Capital.

The roll of the Senate was again called the following Senators answering to their names, to-wit:

The Hon. Henry M. Hyams, Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate, and Senators Abney, Barrow, Butler, Coco, Clarke, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Moore, Reeves, Rogers, Taxada, Wall, Weak and Weightman—16 in number.

The roll of the House was also called, when there were found to be present:

Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Anderson of Madison, Berry, Blanks, Chapman, Cotton, Convillion, Dougherty, Drake, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Griffin, Hargis, Hawkins, Head, Helm, Hodge, Jack, Jamison, Jewell, Jeffries, Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Mayo, Mott, McCranie, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Morehead, Newsom, Osborn, Peck, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley, Robertson, Roubien, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll, Taylor of Union—41 Representatives.

The oath of office was then administered by the Hon. Roland Jones, Judge of the 10th Judicial District, first to Henry W. Allen, Governor elect, and then to Benjamin W. Pearce, Lieutenant-Governor.

The Governor elect being introduced to the General Assembly, by his Excellency Governor Moore, proceeded to deliver the following, his

INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

*Gentlemen of the General Assembly,
and Fellow-Citizens:*

Having been called to the Executive chair by the almost unanimous voice of the State, I now enter upon the duties of that office with the proud satisfaction that I have the confidence of the citizens of Louisiana. That confidence, I trust, has not been misplaced, for it shall be the sole object of my life to serve the State faithfully, honestly and zealously.

Without any solicitation whatever on my part, I have been elected to the highest honor within the gift of the people. If I were ambitious, the measure of my ambi-

tion is full. To be called to the helm in these stormy times, to pilot the ship of State, (I trust to a port of safety,) is indeed honor enough for any man. I would, therefore, be recreant to every principle of honor, of manliness and of patriotism if I permitted anything but a high sense of conscientious duty to govern me in the administration of the affairs of State. I shall not falter in the discharge of the duties assigned me by the constitution, but whenever the good of the people requires it, and I have the power, I shall take all responsibilities, and trust to you and your constituents to support me.

My distinguished predecessor this day leaves the Executive chair, and returns to private life. I fully appreciate the trials and troubles through which he has been called to pass. I honor his spotless integrity and his patriotic heart. May long life and happiness attend him, for he has been to the State a faithful servant.

The people having called me from the camp to assume the robes of civil office, come weal—come woe—I am prepared to do my duty. For nearly three years we have battled with a cruel and vindictive foe. We have suffered many losses and gained many victories. The spirit of our people is still unbroken. The fires of patriotism still blaze as brightly on hill-top and on mountain, as when this great revolution began. Many portions of our fair State have been overrun by the enemy, many houses and homes have been burned and destroyed—many brave men have died in defence of our soil. Age and innocence have alike been murdered, and the widow and the orphan have been brought to the door of starvation. The enemy, glutted with murder, rapine and plunder, seem to have sickened at their own outrages, and are now offering terms of peace; a species of mock pardon. But what terms of peace does the bloody Mocho at Washington suggest to his Congress?

1st. You must give up all your negroes and make them your equals.

The Constitution of the United States guarantees property in your slaves—for Washington, and Madison, and Jefferson were all slaveholders, under that constitution. But Lincoln's proclamation overrides all constitutional and judicial barriers, and aims a death blow at your dearest rights.

2nd. You must swear not only to support the Federal constitution, but all the nefarious acts of the Black Republican party, and the unconstitutional proclamations of Abraham Lincoln.

3rd. You must, if required, hunt down your brother and your neighbor, bind them hand and foot, and deliver them up to death. The father who has sons in the Confederate Army, is ordered to forswear

the land of his birth or adoption, and aid in the assassination of his own offspring.

The fiend of hell in all his malice never conceived such unnatural and infernal wickedness!

Great God! Peace to whom! Peace to you whose brothers have been slain, whose lands have been despoiled, whose homes have been burned, whose wives and daughters have been basely insulted! 'Tis the voice of the murderer with bloody hands, reeking from his assassination, who now proposes terms of amity to the brother of his bleeding victim! 'Tis the incendiary outlaw who returns from burning your houses and despoiling your lands! 'Tis the black-hearted villain who has insulted your wives and daughters, and who now asks you to take a seat around his loathsome fireside, and bask in the smiles of his own licentiousness! Forbid it, Almighty God! Let there be no peace between us until we are free forever from this accursed race! Is peace so sweet as to be purchased at the expense of reconstruction? Oh, think not of reconstruction. Reconstruction means subjugation, ruin and death. The martyrs of our holy cause, those heroic men who shed their blood for us at Manassas, at Shiloh, at Sharpsburg, and a hundred other battle fields, would rise in solemn procession from the chambers of the dead, and rebuke this unholy alliance. A gallant young Louisianian was dying on the field of Shiloh; as I passed by him, he called me to his side, said he: "My Colonel, I am dying. If you should live to get back to Louisiana, tell my aged father that I died for my country, and oh, tell him to fight this battle out—to lose negroes and lands and life itself, but never, never go back to the old Union."

Those words are still ringing in my ears, and I tell them to you to-day: "Lose negroes, lose lands, lose everything, lose life itself," but never think of reconstruction.

There is a sea of blood between us, we cannot pass that sea. Let us rather add thereto a wall of living fire, and a gulf deep and dark of eternal hate. I speak to-day by authority, I speak as the Governor of the State of Louisiana, and I wish it known at Washington and elsewhere, that rather than reconstruct this Government and go back to the Union, on any terms whatever, the people of Louisiana will, in convention assembled, without a dissenting voice, cede the State to any European power.—Give us the guillotine or Botany Bay, the knout or Siberia, the bow-string or the Bosphorus, rather than suffer the brutal outrages of Yankee subjugation. I speak to-day not only for the loyal citizens of Louisiana, who have stood by the State in all her trials, but in behalf of the misguided individuals who have been compelled to take the oath of allegiance to the Feder-

al Government. In their hearts they are true to us, and are praying daily for the triumph of our arms. They have felt the very iron in their souls, and know full well the curse of reconstruction. I speak by authority, for they write me daily, that they would rather, by ten thousand times, be the subjects of the emperor of France, than the slaves of Abraham Lincoln. If God in his inscrutable Providence, should permit the enemy to overwhelm us, then let us retire to our mountains and our caves, and there let us swear by the blood of our murdered fathers and brothers, by the sufferings and the insults of our mothers, wives and sisters, that we will issue forth and hunt the enemy, as we hunt the wild beast of the forest. Oh! give us honorable graves by far, in preference to base servitude, to chains and slavery.

"Aye! better be
Where the ensanguined Spartans still are
free.

In their proud charnel of Thermopylae,"

The despot, who now sits upon the Federal throne, is doubtless dreaming of the axe and halter, of the rack and dungeon, wherewithal to wreak his vengeance on his supposed rebellious subjects. So once,

*At midnight, in his guarded tent,
The Turk was dreaming of the hour
When Greece, her knee in suppliance bent,
Should tremble at his power.

Morning came; Marco Bozarris was there. The Turk it was that died, and Greece was free. Our Bozarris will yet live to see the proud oppressor humbled in the dust. The history of the world does not show a solitary instance wherein six millions of brave people determined to be free, were ever conquered. The wars of Scotland, began by Sir William Wallace and the Bruce, were carried on for a century against the power of England, and would have been continued to this day by the brave Scots, but Scotland's King became the Sovereign of the Realm. The history of the Netherlands and the Low Countries is full of interest, full of encouragement to every patriot's heart. The militia, a mere mob, badly officered, and poorly armed and equipped, fought the armies of Spain, then the "harnessed chivalry" of Europe, for years and years, one generation taking up the war where the other had left it until the Dutch Republic finally triumphed. But the history of the American Revolution claims our attention more than any other. We have as yet fought but three; our fathers fought for seven long years. At one time all their ports were more closely blockaded than ours; Boston and New York and Philadelphia, Baltimore, Norfolk, Charleston and Savannah, were all in the hands of the British, and remained in their possession for years. After a most

disastrous campaign. Gen. Washington crossed the Delaware with only three thousand and weary worn soldiers. He had no army stores, no parks of artillery, no arsenals, no foundries; still he did not despair. He trusted in God and fought the British, and at Yorktown gained our independence.—Should you be despondent when you have an army of three hundred thousand men in the field, commanded by such Generals as Lee, Beauregard and Johnston? After all our wars and sieges and battles—after disease and death have done their work, we still have in this Confederacy, between the ages of fifteen and fifty 700,000 men. The two States of Georgia and Alabama alone can easily furnish the entire Confederacy, east of the Mississippi river, with corn. South Carolina furnishes the rice, and Florida the beef. Who talks, then, of despair? Who is desponding? Let the croaker go to his wife, if he has one, and tie himself to her apron strings, and nurse the children the rest of his days! Providence has smiled upon the land every where, and blessed us with bread in abundance. Gen. Marion lived upon hard fare; Gen. Lee does the same; he lives on the same fare with the humblest soldier. But they all have enough. The heart must be ungrateful indeed that murmurs now when we have carried on this great struggle for three years, and still have plenty in the land.

Our people, it is true, have suffered much, but they bear their losses with patriotic fortitude. Yes, our people have suffered—how much, the Almighty Ruler of the Universe only knows; the world will never know. In the country parishes black desolation is found in the train of the despoiler. Farm houses have been stripped of every article of furniture; barns and fences destroyed, the implements of husbandry have been burnt, and the very cloth of the widow has been cut from the loom by the orders of Yankee Generals. In our cities it has been worse. The Beast Butler came to New Orleans a poor New England bankrupt, with empty pockets, and a lie upon his coward lips. He left that devoted city with the maledictions of all, for he basely insulted the women and robbed the men. The untold millions of wealth that the Beast stole in New Orleans are only known to himself and his robber brother.

Benjamin F. Butler, of Massachusetts, I arraign you to-day at the bar of the civilized world. You told the people of New Orleans upon your arrival there, that none should be compelled to take the oath of allegiance to the Federal Government, but that it was a privilege to be sought after by the citizens. But just so soon as you had them in your power, you required every man and woman in the city to come forward and take the oath. Many left and

many stayed and registered themselves as enemies. Then began, by your orders, the most outrageous promiscuous plundering that was ever witnessed on this continent. It was indeed the saturnalia of thieves. All were robbed who came under the ban of your displeasure. A very respectable merchant of that city, a non-combatant, finding that he, like all his friends and neighbors, would be robbed, sold his silver plate, a large and valuable set, to a widow lady, to whom he was indebted. This lady put the plate on board a Danish ship, and took bills of lading for same. You heard of it, sent armed soldiery, took the ship, broke open the hatches, and seized the plate. Not satisfied with that you sent the merchant to Ship Island and kept him there at hard labor, for months, until General Banks released him. You arrested another merchant and demanded his plate. He informed you he had sent it off. Your reply was, "The plate or Ship Island." Finding that you could not get the plate, you released him upon his paying you a large amount of money, which money you pocketed. These are facts sworn to and subscribed to in my office, and I record them here, to show to the civilized world how the people of Louisiana have been treated by one of the satraps of Abraham Lincoln. Every Sabbath morning the thieves met at the den of the Beast, and the stealings of the past week were divided out. To the jackals he gave the spoons and the trinkets, but reserved to himself the lion's share, the coin, the plate, and the jewels. A large portion of the movable wealth of the city of New Orleans, and lower Louisiana, has been transferred to the pockets of this blear-eyed, incarnate devil—a great part of which he put into foreign exchange and sent to Europe and now he is, by far, the richest man on the continent. He can loan money to the Rothschilds, and buy out the wealthiest citizen of New York. Cicero has given the name of Verres immortal infamy, and that of Butler is now known throughout the civilized world as a synonym for crime, cowardice and brutality. When the Southern Student shall in future ages study the classics, as he reads that beautiful oration of Cicero against Verres, he will involuntarily pause, and for the Sicilian robber, will read, Butler the Beast. "I ask now, Verres, what has thou to say against this charge?" I ask now, Butler the Beast, what hast thou to say against thy dark and damning crimes? At the dead hour of night, upon the false accusation of a negro woman, you dragged from a sick bed an aged man, one of the most respectable citizens of New Orleans, and thrust him into a cold and miserable cell. He died of your treatment. His wife an amiable, well-bred and lovely woman, went to you, and upon her knees begged for her husband. You held a loaded pistol to the

weeping face of that lady, and drove her from your bloated presence with the most obscene and vulgar oaths. With the fiendish heart of the hyena, you tore open the tomb of Gen. Albert Sidney Johnston, and robbed the grave of that gallant soldier. You may never feel the halter draw in this world. You may live to old age, and possibly die in your bed, with your stolen property around you. But a day will come, the "*dies Irae*" when you shall meet face to face the women you have brutally insulted, and the men you have robbed and murdered, at the bar of of an avenging God! Beware the fate of Verres. He died a felon's death. Mark Anthony demanded a portion of his ill-gotten gains, he refused and was slain. When lead to death he begged for that mercy he had so often denied to others. The spirits of your murdered victims say, beware! The living friends of the dead say, beware! "The patient search of the vigil long" will find you out, and drag you from your hiding place. Your coat of mail will not save you, for your hour will come at last.

There is in the Vatican at Rome, an extraordinary painting by one of the old masters. It is called the "Devil reproving sin." The great artist has, by prophetic pencil, portrayed the exact features of Benjamin F. Butler. As statues will, no doubt, be erected to him in all the Federal cities, I suggest that the holy father, Pius the Ninth, be urgently solicited to send this painting to the city of New Orleans, for the present and all future ages to behold with horror and disgust.

In the small city of Baton Rouge, the enemy took special delight in destroying, not only public, but private property.—Not satisfied with burning the State House, with its valuable library, they took a malicious pleasure in robbing nearly every private residence in the place. They carried away as part of their "*warlike trophies*" fifty private pianos. The wardrobes of ladies were broken open and searched by Yankee commissioned officers, and their silk dresses were taken by these same officers and sent to their own families in Yankee land.

The Provost Marshal at Baton Rouge, an officer thought by some of our people to be a gentleman, and treated as such, was the foremost man, the ring-leader, in this paltry theft. When an officer under orders from his General drives off a gang of negroes, he can perhaps be excused, for he is obeying orders. But when a Federal officer, with a commission in his pocket, robs defenceless widows of their pianos, and steals their silk dresses, what can you think of such a nation? They are robbers, all. In Point Coupee, they deliberately fired their cannon upon the Parish church, while the people were engaged in worship, and in Florida they tore the sacred emblems of

the Saviour from the altar of the living God, and with unholy hands prostituted them in their filthy camps. If all the rich household furniture, and jewels, and plate, and coin, that Federal officers have stolen from the people of this Confederacy were heaped into one vast pile, it would form a huge monument of shame, at which the civilized and christian world would stand aghast! Yet, no Federal officer has ever been punished for these robberies; on the contrary, all have been promoted. The Beast, and Neal Dow, and Milroy, and Hunter, with a host of lesser scoundrels, like Dudley and Killborn, still go unwhipped of justice. The jewels which they have torn from the persons of the most respectable ladies in the country, they now offer for sale in the public markets. The army and the navy rob; Commanding Generals and Commodores steal. Some fancy a likely negro girl, others prefer a carriage and horses, while a third will take your piano, or your wife's silk dresses. There is a wild hunt for plunder, a mania for stealing, from the Major-General down to the humblest private in the ranks. And all this is done in the nineteenth century, and countenanced, yea, applauded, by the people who read the Bible and claim to be christians!

When Warren Hastings returned to England with his skirts dripping with Indian blood, and his pockets filled with Indian gold, he was met by the eloquent rebuke of Burke, and Sheridan, and a host of noble Britons. He was arraigned at the bar of the country and impeached for high crimes and misdemeanors. In eloquent, burning, and indignant language he was denounced as the enemy of mankind. There is no Burke, no Sheridan, in the Federal Congress. But the robber who returns from the South with a hundred cold blooded murders upon his soul, and millions of stolen property in his possession, is honored and promoted, and feted, and bespattered with fulsome praise.

But let us turn from these disgusting scenes to more pleasant topics.

In a recent tour through most of the Parishes of the State, I found the great wants of the country to be cotton cards and medicines. Our fair countrywomen have been the truest patriots of the land. The main object of their lives seems to be to clothe their sons and brothers. It is a pleasing sight to visit the farm houses of the State in these warlike times. Your will find the mother and her daughters seated around the fire-side, plying the loom, the spindle, and the needle—all busily engaged in making clothes for their soldier boys. Heaven will smile upon these noble women, and a grateful country will ever hold them the dearest treasure on earth. I shall, in due time, recommend to you that you enact a law, placing in the hands of each fe-

male of this State, above the age of eighteen, a pair of cotton cards, free of cost and charges.

I shall further recommend to you the passage of a bill for the purpose of supplying the people of this State with medicines. In many portions of the country, calomel, opium and quinine cannot be had. The people must have them; and I shall recommend that the Executive be empowered to send competent and trustworthy agents to purchase a supply of these necessary articles for the people of this State. I propose, when purchased, that they be distributed among the practising physicians at cost and charges, requiring them, by bond, to administer the medicines to their patients at the same prices. With a plenty of cotton cards we can clothe our soldiers in the field, and with a plenty of medicines we can heal our sick at home—and backed by a patriotic people, we will fight the enemy for forty years to come. When was there ever seen, since the world began, so much patriotism exhibited as you find among the ladies of New Orleans. They have been imprisoned, robbed and insulted. Like the chosen people of God who sat by the rivers of Babylon, they are now weeping in their captivity, and looking with anxious hearts for the coming of our armies, and the triumph of our cause. Many of our noble women, hearing of the sufferings and insults of their sisters in the city, have fled the approach of the enemy, and now with their tender children are living in wretched hovels battling the discomforts of life and the hardships of war with hearts of Spartan mothers. They shall see their homes again, and

"The baby that's sleeping
While its mother is weeping,"

shall live to be the joy of its mother's heart. Oh, mothers of Louisiana, God Almighty bless you and sustain you in this your hour of trial! Kiss your gentle babes and send your sons to battle. Your prayers have pierced the clouds—they have ascended to the skies, and our Heavenly Father will, in his own good time, answer your petitions. We are told in the sacred scriptures that Miriam once stood upon the Red Sea banks and clapped her hands for joy, for the hosts of Pharaoh were destroyed; "the horses and the riders were thrown into the sea."—Yes, ladies of Louisiana, you too shall clap your hands for joy, for we will triumph.—The vandal hosts of the destroyer will be hurled back to their homes, and peace, gentle peace, with healing in his wings, will come and bind up the broken hearts, and bless our distracted land.

And now, gentlemen of the General Assembly, I cannot close this address without touching upon a very important subject; by far the most important that will come before you. You are the auditory nerve of

this State. What is spoken here, will be heard in every portion of the land. I therefore address the people of Louisiana through you to-day. Would to God that all my fellow citizens were here on this occasion. If a soldier deserts his flag, leaves the army without permission, and comes home to look after his wife and children, do not you and I, and all the people, point the finger of scorn at him? A hue and cry is raised—the cavalry is sent out—he is arrested, court-martialed, and punished as a deserter. Why? Because there is an obligation resting upon him to obey his commanding officer, stand by his colors and fight the battles of his country. There is an obligation equally as strong, resting up on those who stay at home and enjoy the comforts of life, to support the soldier's wife and children. You men of wealth, whom God has blessed in "basket and in store," open your corn cribs and your meat houses, and send for the soldier's wife and children. Bid them come freely, without money and without price, and consider it not only a duty, but a privilege to aid them. Oh, you have a fearful responsibility resting upon you. You have it now in your power to do much good to your country, for, by feeding the soldiers' wives at home, you will keep the soldiers themselves in the field. Most of the desertions that take place, are caused by news from home that the soldier's family is starving.

Our wealthy men generally have nobly done their duty. They have given their sons cheerfully, and their substance freely, to the Confederacy. They have opened their barns and store-houses to the poor and the needy, and are now, with generous hearts, doing all in their power for our sacred cause. Noble Louisianians, be not weary in well doing. You will be embalmed in the affections of your countrymen, and the recipients of your kindness will ever bless you.

There are, however, I am sorry to say it, a few men in our midst, who seem to take no interest whatever in this war. They send their negroes to labor on the public works through compulsion, and pay their taxes grudgingly. They stay at home and hoard up their riches with miserly care, and leave the soldiers to fight their battles in the field.

Their barns and their store-houses are shut up to all, except the monied man, the speculator, who buys in large quantities, and then grows fat upon the necessities of the poor. To these men I would say, "the talent which you have received, and digged and hid in the earth shall be taken from you." If we fail, the robber will lay his rough and heavy hands upon your lands and your slaves, and neither you nor your children will ever enjoy them again. What are your broad acres and your hundreds of slaves compared to the issues of the

great struggle now going on in this country? The lurid fires of war are now blazing around you. The enemy is at your door, and you sit still hugging to your bosoms the delusive hope that you will make some terms with him, and save your property. If the enemy spared not the slaves of good Union men, do you think he will spare yours? If we fail, our negroes will be driven off at the point of the bayonet, and your lands will be parcelled out amongst the hireling soldiery of Abraham Lincoln.

I, therefore, urgently appeal to every man in the State, not to speculate in order that he may make money, but to do all he can for the wives and children of those who are fighting his battles. I earnestly appeal to every man, rich or poor, to aid in every possible way he can, the wife of the gallant soldier, who cannot remain at home to take care of his property, or minister to the wants of his family.

It may well be asked in these troublous times, what will become of the negro?

The status of the negro race has been fixed by the immutable laws of God, and the Yankee at home does not wish to change it, even if he could. The race ever has been, is now, and ever will be "the briers of wood and drawers of water." Go to New England, New York or Illinois, and you will find them everywhere performing the menial offices of life. If, when this war is ended, there should be found alive any negroes in the hands of the enemy, they will have a hard time, indeed. They will not be permitted to labor on the railroads, the canals, or the public works of any kind, for the Irish and Dutch will rise in mobs and drive them off. Yankee society will not educate them for the bar, the bench or the pulpit. Yankee pride will not tolerate their intermarriage with the whites. Driven from the social circle, and all the industrial pursuits of life, what will become of the poor negro? As a drivelling outcast, he will become a mendicant wanderer.—His doom will be the prison and the work house.

There are two kinds of Abolitionists in the United States, the political and the religious. The religions steal the negroes, and the political kill them. From reliable information in my possession, two-thirds of all the negroes that have gone to the enemy are now in their graves. Many are daily deserting and returning to their old masters, sick and sore and emaciated, and begging that they may be permitted to die at home in peace. There was once in the river parishes and the lower portion of this State, the most contented and happy race of laborers ever seen on earth. Music and the merry laugh were nightly heard from their comfortable quarters, for peace and plenty and quiet blessed both master and servant. But now desolation want and disease fill the cabins of these once happy

and contented laborers. In an evil hour the destroyer came. He poisoned the ears and corrupted the hearts of these people. They have either been enticed away from their comfortable homes, or driven by force of arms, and now upon hard fare and harder work, they can only dream of the blessings of the old plantation, where the meat house and corn crib were always full and at their command.

The white inhabitants of our State have suffered much in this war, but the blacks have suffered far more. I have seen many of these unfortunate creatures, who, at the risk of their lives have run off from the enemy's encampments. They all give the most heart-rending account of their sufferings. Men, women and children are crowded together in miserable huts. No attention is paid to the sick, but little medicine and no nurses. Mothers die on the cold ground, with their little helpless children around them. In their own language, "the doctor was seldom sent for, and when he did come the sick ones always died," and when they died they were buried more like dogs than human beings! What a commentary on Yankee philanthropy!—They first kill the negro to make him free, and then refuse him a christian burial!

We will carry the institution of domestic slavery with us triumphantly through this war, and then it will rest on a firmer basis than ever, and be administered better and more wisely. This institution will triumph with us, because it is right and just in the sight of Almighty God. That best of all books, the Bible, which is so much despised by Abolitionists, from the beginning to the end thereof, sanctions slavery. The patriarchs were all slaveholders, and bought and sold their slaves then as we do now.—The same inspired man to whom the Ten Commandments were delivered, and who stood in the presence of the Great Jehovah, gave laws for the government of slaves.—President Lincoln and his followers say that it is an awful sin to own a slave, but that it is not only right but highly commendable to burn a church, rob the widow and the orphan, and shoot down unoffending citizens! It is no harm to break open a Masonic Lodge, and with sacrilegious hands steal and desecrate its regalia! It is all right and proper to devastate whole Parishes, burn villages, and barns, and store-houses, bombard cities without notice, and hang non-combatants; but oh, it is a terrible crime to buy a negro, treat him well, and let him work for you! Shame, eternal burning shame upon such loathsome hypocrisy! There ever has been, and there is now, the kindest feeling existing between the master and his servants. Notwithstanding a brutal and vindictive enemy has advised the negroes to murder their masters, there have been no evidences of insurrection in our midst—on the con-

trary, there are hundreds of instances where the master has gone to the war and left his wife and children in the hands of his negroes, and well have they served, guarded, and protected them.

When the children of Israel went up out of Egypt to the promised land, they took their servants with them. Master and servant, hand in hand, together crossed the Red Sea, and when safely over, they both alike rejoiced at the destruction of their pursuer. The faithful historian who shall in after times write the history of this war, will doubtless record many instances wherein the negro slave has been unfaithful to his owner—but he will, on the other hand, devote many a bright page to the deep fidelity and noble heroism of the servant in defense of the rights and interests of his master, and that historian may close his volume by recording this important fact—that "at the close of the great struggle between the North and the South, master and servant were found in the ranks side by side, fighting bravely, shoulder to shoulder, for the independence which they have so gloriously achieved, and the liberties which they now enjoy."

I shall take occasion to call the attention of the General Assembly to the passage of such laws as I think the times demand, and the exigencies of the country require. Especially shall I call your attention to the unauthorized and illegal manner in which the "impressment act" has been executed in this State. Officers, or those claiming to be officers of the Confederacy, in making their illegal impressments, have added insult to injury. This must be stopped, and I shall look to you for the passage of a law making such offences a felony, and punishable by imprisonment in the State Penitentiary. The people must and shall be protected in all their civil rights. In this connection, I am happy to express my hearty approbation of the conduct of Lt. Gen. E. Kirby Smith, the Commanding officer of this Department, and of Major Gen. Taylor. These commanding officers have not only done their duty most nobly, but whenever there has been a conflict between the civil and military authorities, they have most cheerfully submitted to the decision of the Courts of the State. Happy are we indeed in these days of despotic power, to have such patriotic Generals. May they long live to receive the plaudits of a grateful country!

You, gentlemen, are assembled together on no ordinary occasion. You have much to do. Your constituents expect much at your hands. My hearty co-operation will cheerfully be given to every measure that may tend to guard the citizen in his rights, and secure the liberties of the people.—While I urge upon you the strictest economy in all your acts, still I would say, spare no expense. Stand not upon dollars and

cents when the safety of your country requires your action. Let every man who owes service to his country go to the army. Let every man who stays at home, do his duty—frown down extortion and vice in every shape and every form. Be true to yourselves, and leave the rest to God.—Be true to yourselves, and the country is safe.

The two Houses then on motion retired to their respective halls.

On motion of Mr. Mott, the call of the roll was dispensed with.

On motion of the same Representative, the House adjourned until to-morrow at 11 o'clock.

TUESDAY, January 26, 1864.

The House met at 11 o'clock, A. M.

Present: The Hon. J. B. Elam, Speaker, and

Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Anderson of Madison, Berry, Blanks, Chapman, Cotton, Couvillon, Dougherty, Drake, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Griffin, Hargis, Hawkins, Head, Helm, Hodge, Jack, Jamison, Jewell, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Mayo, Mott, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Newsom, Peck, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley, Roubien, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll, Taylor of Union—38 Representatives.

Mr. Foulhouze, in view of the fact that the General Assembly has, by its Joint Resolution, approved January 23rd, 1862, declared the Anniversary of the Secession of Louisiana, the twenty-sixth day of January, to be a holiday, moved that the House do now adjourn until to-morrow morning at 11 o'clock.

The motion was carried and the House adjourned accordingly.

WEDNESDAY, January 27, 1864.

The House met at 11 o'clock A. M.

The Hon. J. B. Elam, Speaker, and

Present—Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Anderson of Madison, Berry, Blanks, Cotton, Couvillon, Dougherty, Drake, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Gore, Griffin, Hargis, Hawkins, Head, Helm, Hodge, Jack, Jamison, Jewell, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Kerman, Mayo, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Newsom, Osborn, Peck, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley, Richardson, Robertson, Roubien, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll, and Taylor of Union—41 Representatives.

The Journal of Monday and yesterday was read and approved.

Messrs. W. F. Kerman of East Feliciana, W. Richardson of West Feliciana, and Clement Gore of East Feliciana, were sworn and took their seats.

Mr. Foulhouze presented a communication from Mr. Adolphus Olivier, Representative in the last Legislature from the Par-

ish of St. Mary, and moved that he be admitted as a member of this body.

The Speaker ruled that the application made by the gentleman from Plaquemines, that Adolphus Olivier of the Parish of St. Mary, elected as a Representative from said Parish to the General Assembly of Louisiana, at the general election held on the first Monday in November, 1861, be admitted to a seat on this floor as a member of this Legislature, is out of order, and cannot be considered by this House, because he is not present, and cannot take the constitutional oath.

Whereupon Mr. Foulhouze withdrew the communication and his motion.

Mr. Head, Chairman of the committee on Contingent Expenses, presented on behalf of that committee, the following resolution:

Resolved, That the sum of one hundred and forty-seven dollars be paid to J. M. Wilson, for labor paid, making benches, &c., for the inauguration of Gen. Allen.—Said amount to be paid out of the contingent fund of the House, on his own warrant.

The resolution was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Newsom, the following resolution was adopted:

Be it resolved, That the House of Representatives, hereafter, shall meet at 10 o'clock, A. M.

On motion of Mr. Helm, the following resolution was adopted:

Be it resolved, &c., That the Judiciary committee be authorized to amend the law with reference to a change of venue, so as to enable the Judge to order the removal of trial to where it is prayed for by the criminal, without the necessity of first having the party arraigned.

On motion of the same Representative, the following resolution was adopted:

Be it resolved, &c., That the Judiciary committee be authorized to amend the law with regard to the trial of persons charged with crime not bailable, so as to allow them to be tried in an adjoining Parish or District out of the lines of the enemy.

A message was received from the Senate, through W. F. Wagner, Esq., its Secretary, asking the concurrence of the House in a bill entitled

An act to abolish the office of Superintendent of Public Education.

On motion of Mr. Snider of Bossier, it was ordered that one thousand copies of the Inaugural address of his Excellency, Governor Henry W. Allen, be printed for the use of the House, under the direction of the Committee on Printing.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Mr. Taylor of Carroll, Chairman of the committee on Claims, reported on behalf of said committee, favorably on bill entitled:

An act for the relief of Philo Alden Sherriff and Tax Collector of the Parish of Bossier.

The same Representative, on behalf of said committee, reported a bill entitled:

Joint resolution instructing the Auditor of Public Accounts to retain in his hands the public stocks pledged for the redemption of the notes issued to the Free Banks of New Orleans.

Which was read twice, and the rules being suspended, was referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Cotton, Chairman of the committee on the Judiciary, on behalf of said committee, reported favorably on bill entitled:

An act for the relief of John Hewitt.

Also a substitute for the bill entitled:

"An act curtailing the exemption of persons from jury duty during the war."

Which substitute is entitled:

An act to define the qualification of Jurors and who are exempt from the duties thereof.

Also unfavorably on the bill entitled:

An act to exempt the Homestead of a property and householder from seizure and sale on execution in certain cases.

The same on the "House resolution relative to the Governor's message," reported it back to the House without action, as there is now a similar bill reported from the Senate."

Mr. McEnery, chairman of the committee on Public Lands and Levees, on behalf of said committee reported back to the House the bill entitled:

An act to cut a dam on Bayou Jean de Jean at Cotile, with the request that it be referred to the delegation from Rapides.

Also favorably on the bill entitled:

An act for the relief of Thomas H. Pitts, of the Parish of Caddo.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

The following representatives, the rules being suspended, introduced the following entitled bills, which were read twice and referred, to-wit:

By Mr. Foulhouse:

An act to dispose by donation of "Franklin College, belonging to the State in the Parish of St. Landry.

To the committee on Education.

An act to amend an act, entitled: "An act prescribing an additional oath to be taken by State, Parish and Municipal officers," and approved June 16th, 1863.

To the committee on the Judiciary.

An act to amend the first section of an act, entitled: "An act prescribing an additional oath for commissioners of elections," and approved June 16th, 1863.

To the same committee.

An act to amend the 1st section of an act entitled: "An act prescribing an additional oath for electors in certain cases," approved June 17th, 1863.

By Mr. Elam:

An act to amend an act entitled: "An act relative to Judicial proceedings against persons in the Military or Naval service," approved 21st Dec. 1863.

To the committee on the Judiciary.

An act conferring additional powers on the clerks of District courts generally.

To the same committee.

An act to authorize Lewis Phillips and his wife Harriet Phillips, to adopt Lewis Oscar Phillips, a minor.

To the same committee.

By Mr. Newson.

An act to amend and re enact the second section of an act entitled: "An act to prohibit the distillation of grain, sugar, molasses or cane juice, into spirituous or other alcoholic liquors

To the committee on Parochial affairs.

By Mr. Helm.

An act to increase the salary of District Judges.

To the committee on Finance.

By Mr. Gilmore.

An act for the relief of John Parnell and Elizabeth Parnell, his wife, of the Parish of Caddo.

To the committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. Snyder of Bossier.

An act in relation to the Ferry across Red River. &c.

To the committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. Perkins.

An act to authorize the Clerk of the District court in and for the Parish of Calcasieu to make out a transcript of the records in all cases in said court.

To the committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. Jack.

An act declaring the license of certain persons forfeited, ipso facto, by their refusal to take Confederate or State Treasury notes in payment for their merchandize or other articles of sale, also prescribing a punishment for such persons as violate the provisions of this act.

To the committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. Head.

An act to amend and re-enact the 1st section of an act approved Jan. 23, 1852, entitled:

"An act to amend and re-enact an act entitled, an act to provide a revenue and the means of collecting the same.

To the committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. Joffron.

An act increasing the fees of Sheriffs, Recorders and Clerks of District Courts.

To the same committee.

By Mr. Griffin

An act to provide for the funding, issuing, and taxing Treasury notes. To the committee on Finance.

By Mr. Pressley.

An act to authorize the Governor to purchase Medicines for the benefit of the families of soldiers.

An appropriation of five hundred thousand dollars should be made for the purchase of medicines, by a Commissioner appointed by the Governor—and when purchased, they should be distributed among the practising physicians of the State, who shall, under bonds, be required to administer the same, at cost and charges, to their patients. I am receiving letters continually from the most respectable physicians, informing me that their patients are suffering for medicines. I cannot urge upon you too strongly this appropriation. The physicians ask it—all classes in the community call for it—humanity itself demands it.

JUDICIARY.

Wherever the enemy has not taken possession of our territory, the Courts are regularly held and justice dispensed to all.—There have been but few conflicts with the military authorities, and whenever they have occurred, I am happy to state that the Courts have been respected, and their decisions cheerfully acquiesced in by the Commanding Generals. In some Parishes of the State, no Courts are held, and crime is frequently committed with impunity. I recommend that you enact a law authorizing the removal of all persons arrested for any crime or misdemeanor, from these Parishes, to any Parish in the State, for trial, where the Courts are held regularly.

CURRENCY OF THE STATE.

I recommend that you enact a law that all persons holding the State Treasury Notes shall be permitted, in a given time, to come forward and receive State bonds for the same, payable in twenty years after peace is declared, and drawing six per cent per annum interest; interest payable annually in Confederate Treasury notes. I further recommend that whenever the State shall require funds to meet its ordinary expenses, or you appropriations, the Executive shall be authorized to cause to be issued the bonds of the State, conditioned as you may prescribe, which bonds shall be negotiated with the authorities of the Confederate Government, or other parties, for their Treasury notes. My object is to withdraw entirely from circulation State notes, and in lieu thereof substitute those of the Confederacy.

I further recommend that all corporations be compelled to call in their issues of notes, and redeem the same within ninety days, and that the Treasurer of the State be required to issue five hundred thousand dollars in change notes; from ten cents up to one dollar. At present the merchants and shop keepers, bakers and butchers, have on hand a large amount of uncurrent Parish paper, and the citizen who takes a journey through the State returns home with his pockets filled with this un-uniform currency. This should not be the case. It can easily be remedied by the passage of the above acts. The change notes can be

made redeemable at the Treasurer's office, in Confederate notes, when the sum of ten dollars is presented.

During the continuance of the war, I do not deem it advisable that the State taxes should be collected by compulsory process. Many persons have not the means of paying their taxes, particularly the refugees from home and those who reside in the border Parishes. The Sheriffs will find it difficult in some of the Parishes to give bond, and in the unsettled condition of the country, it will be unsafe to deposit the taxes with irresponsible parties. For this reason the State Treasurer should be authorized and required to receive and receipt for all taxes that may be voluntarily paid in by any person, who may have been legally assessed.

FREE PERSONS OF COLOR.

I fully endorse most of the recommendations made to the General Assembly by my worthy predecessor; but doubt the propriety of touching the laws of the State, giving to free persons of color the privilege of testifying as witnesses in our Courts of justice. They are mostly natives of the State—were raised in our midst—and are entitled to our protection. They are generally a quiet, peaceable and industrious population. Many have acquired wealth and respectability, and are good and loyal citizens in every respect. They have suffered heavily in this war, and in many instances have been made the special objects of brutal treatment by the enemy. I know of no case on record wherein the cause of justice has suffered, or the public has in any manner received detriment, by the observance of these laws. Instead of disturbing them they should be protected in all their legal and constitutional rights, and be required to bear the burthens of this war equally with our fellow-citizens. I therefore recommend that every able-bodied free colored male, in this State, between the ages of fifteen and fifty-five, be enrolled and held subject to the orders of the Executive, to be employed by the State in shops and manufacturing establishments, and to perform such other duties as may be assigned them by the Executive.

INTERNAL RESOURCES.

There never has been a geological survey of the State, and consequently, no one knows its hidden wealth. I am credibly informed that large quantities of lignite, iron, lead, and the sulphates, are to be found in the Northern Parishes. The iron ore is said to be very rich, containing it is reported, sixty per cent. I respectfully call these facts to your attention, and recommend that the Executive be authorized to send competent and experienced persons to examine thoroughly into these matters. If it should be found that we have these valuable minerals in abundance, then the Executive should be clothed with dis

cretionary powers to give to the people their immediate benefit. Our noble sister State, Texas, has done much towards developing her resources. Her Legislature has made the most liberal appropriations, and her citizens are now mining with great success. To her alone, we must look now for all the iron we use. Of all the metals it is the most important. Both the civil and military departments require it in large quantities, and without it our fields cannot be cultivated, nor our armies put in motion. I shall take great pleasure in meeting your joint committees, who may be intrusted with this important subject, and give them much valuable information.

WHAT DEPRECIATES CONFEDERATE MONEY?

HOW IS THE MATTER TO BE REMEDIED?

When we reflect and look carefully into this grave subject, we will find that Confederate Treasury notes are not so much depreciated as many seem to think. Confederate money was never intended to be used in foreign countries. It was issued as a currency—a circulating medium for this Confederacy alone—as such, it has answered its purposes, under all the circumstances, very well. So long as we have an army of three hundred thousand men to pay, and feed, and clothe, and arm, and equip; so long as every State is a military encampment, and every village a barrack for soldiers—so long as we make war upon the immense scale that we are now compelled to adopt, there must be a very large circulation of some kind of money. This cannot be prevented. Contraction of that circulation at present, will not reduce the price of any one article now most needed in the community. To-day in Louisiana, land and corn are just as cheap as they were before the war. Why? Because there is plenty in the market. Negroes and horses and cattle are about three times as high. Why? Because the market is not so well supplied as heretofore. Nails and axes and cooking utensils are almost worth their weight in gold. Why? Because there are none for sale. If it were possible to reduce the currency to one hundred Confederate dollars in this Department, a pound of nails could not be bought for that sum of money. Why? Because they are not to be had at any price. Let us carry this argument out a little further. A bushel of corn is worth to-day in the market two dollars. It will make one gallon of whiskey, and that gallon of whiskey is worth one hundred dollars! Not because the Confederate money is so bad, but because the bad whiskey is so scarce. A pound of cotton can be purchased for twenty cents; in the same market a yard of calico will bring ten dollars! Not because Confederate money is worthless, for it buys the cotton, but simply because we have no manufactures of cotton cloth in the State. My belief is, that all things considered, we have carried

on this great struggle, for three years, very well with Confederate money. I shall not inflict upon you a long essay upon the currency, nor advise that Confederate notes shall or shall not be made a legal tender. This is not the panacea for our troubles. This will not reduce high prices in articles of prime necessity. The only method, in my judgment, to benefit the currency is to follow the example that has been set us by Texas. Encourage manufactures of all kinds. Bend all your energies to the manufacturing of every article needed at home or in the field.

If zeal and activity and sleepless energy will aid you, you shall have my hearty support. Call into requisition every idle man and woman in the State, who wants work. If necessary take every fifth negro woman, and put her at the loom, and take every fifth negro man and put him into the shop, and, in a few short months, you will find a far different state of things. Ploughs and hoes, and axes, and cooking utensils, shoes and boots, and hats and clothing of every kind will all be as cheap as they were before the war began. Stock the market well with these necessary articles, and then Confederate money will buy as much as gold and silver did in former days.

I am fully aware that too much Confederate money is now in circulation. The taxes will absorb a large amount, and it is hoped that Congress will, at its present session, make provision for a further curtailment. But whatever action Congress shall take in the premises, let us do our duty. You are the guardians of the currency of this State. Call in every dollar of State money; that will be so much good done in the right direction. Let the currency be uniform. Let there be no invidious comparisons between State and Confederate notes. Then turn your earnest attention to manufactures of every kind.—Start the hammer and the loom. Let the furnace smoke and the anvil ring. Stimulate capitalists to embark in these industrial pursuits at home, for while the blockade stands you cannot get such articles as you now need so much, unless you make them yourselves. If one-half of the capital that has been sent to foreign lands, in running the blockade, had been invested in manufactures at home, our country would be this day in a far better condition. I, therefore, finally recommend that you establish “a Mining and Manufacturing Bureau,” (to which may be attached a Laboratory for preparing indigenous medicines;) and place at its head men of intelligence, of energy, and undoubted honesty. This is a great undertaking; but we are a great people, and should be equal to any emergency. On the field we are the equals of any in the world. Let us learn a lesson from the enemy, and profit by their example. They manufacture everything at home.

To the same committee.

By Mr. Jack.

An act to repeal an act relative to Judicial proceedings, approved June 9th, 1863.

To the committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. Morehead.

An act authorizing the publication and circulation of all acts of Congress relating to the impressment of property.

To the committee on Confederate Relations.

By Mr. Pressley.

An act to amend an act entitled :

"An act to authorize the Governor of the State to purchase wool and cotton cards for the benefit of the families of soldiers, approved June 20th, 1863."

To the committee on Finance.

Mr. Head obtained leave to withdraw from the files of the unfinished business of last session, the following bill :

An act to provide for the disposition of runaway slaves after the expiration of sixty days from the time of their committal.

To the committee on the Judiciary.

The bill entitled :

"An act to authorize Police Juries to regulate the amount of tax and license on trades, professions &c, was indefinitely postponed.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

A message was received from his Excellency, Governor Henry W. Allen, through Maj. H. M. Favrot, his private Secretary, which was ordered to be read as follows :

Gentlemen of the Senate and

House of Representatives :

The Constitution requires that the Governor shall from time to time give to the General Assembly information respecting the situation of the State, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he may deem expedient. I now proceed to comply with that duty.

MILITARY.

I recommend that the Executive be authorized immediately to call into the field, and to officer a regiment to consist of five hundred mounted men, (to be increased to one thousand, if necessary), to be called "The State Guard." In many of the border Parishes of this State, there is neither military nor civil law, and crimes are daily committed with impunity. The Confederate authorities cannot correct these evils, and the Executive is at present powerless. It would be the especial duty of this force to arrest all offenders against the laws, and generally to act as conservators of the peace. In times like these, the Executive should always have in hand a strong squadron to protect the citizens against bands of lawless men, and follow up crime with certain punishment. With five hundred mounted men, well officered, armed and

equipped, more good service can be rendered the State than with the entire militia.

The present militia law is a nullity, there being no method provided for its enforcement. It is certainly the duty of every citizen, rich or poor, old or young, when his country is invaded, to rally in the defense of that country. Our people are all ready and willing to do this; but they have a natural aversion to going into camps of instruction. Besides, the policy of the country evidently demands that they should stay at home and raise crops, and prepare clothing for the army.

No law in any government can be well executed unless it meets popular approbation. I submit to your superior intelligence the synopsis of a bill, the details of which shall be cheerfully communicated to your military committees:

1st. Enroll every able-bodied white male in the State, between the ages of fifteen and fifty-five.

2nd. Arm and equip every enrolled man, and until arms can be had, repair those now in the hands of the people.

3rd. Give the Executive full power to call out the militia, or any part thereof—provided they shall not be kept in the field longer than sixty days at a time.

4th. Adopt the Army Regulations and Articles of War of the Confederacy, as far as practicable for the government of the militia.

It is not intended by this bill, that the militia shall ever be called to the field as regular troops. They are to be kept at home, and held in readiness for the purpose of checking the raids and incursions of the enemy, by land or water. The repeal of the substitute law by Congress, will greatly reduce the militia of the State; still that militia, by the bill proposed, can be rendered very efficient, at little cost to the State.

INTOXICATING LIQUORS.

The General Assembly, at its last session, very wisely enacted a law prohibiting the distillation of intoxicating liquors, except from fruit. This has had a most salutary effect. There is still a crying evil in our midst. We are importing daily from neighboring States large quantities of alcoholic poison. The effect of this poison upon the community is most lamentable. I need go no further than this capital, to show you the long record of crime brought on by intoxication. In the army it is worse; nine-tenths of the arrests and punishments are caused from intoxicating liquors.

I therefore urgently recommend that you enact a law, prohibiting under severe penalties, the importation or sale of intoxicating liquors in this State, except for medicinal purposes. The fathers and mothers of this State will "rise up and call you blessed" for such a law; and the good people

generally will hail it with delight: for in will save many a gallant young soldier from punishment and disgrace, and in these reckless times, give peace and quiet and security to all. "Lead us not into temptation," is the Savior's prayer. Then take this tempting poison from before our young men. The use of ardent spirits is a luxury; nothing more, nothing less; and our patriotic people will most cheerfully dispense with that luxury during the war. Besides, the trade now carried on in liquors is diverting a large capital into improper channels, which, instead of being used for the good of the country, is flooding the land with poison, and death, and crime in all its horrid shapes. It may be urged that such a law will be a dead-letter on the statute book. To this, I will simply reply, that if you should, in your wisdom, see proper to enact such a law as here suggested, it shall be executed.

SOLDIERS' WIVES AND SOLDIERS' FAMILIES.

Liberal appropriations should be made for the soldiers' wives, and the widows of those gallant men, who have fallen in our service. In my inaugural address, I fully set forth their claims to your protecting care. The Executive should be authorized to make an arrangement with the commanding General of this Department, for the purchase of government corn; which should be distributed from the several depots of the State, in such quantities as will supply the wants of these deserving ladies and their children. Their husbands are either in the army, or have died as brave soldiers for us. It is, therefore, the sacred duty of this State to provide for their families.

IMPRESSMENT ACT.

In every portion of the State, the people are complaining most bitterly of the manner in which the act of Congress, known as the "impressment act," is executed. The duty of the officer who impresses private property, is plainly laid down, and a severe penalty is denounced against all who do not comply with the provisions of the law. In numerous instances no appraisal whatever has been made no facts legally ascertained, in regard to the necessities of the family, but, notwithstanding the protests of the injured parties, the Confederate officers have, in a peremptory manner, taken the property, simply leaving their receipts for the same. This must be stopped. It shall be stopped. It has, in a great measure, estranged many good citizens, who have ever looked upon our army as the protectors of the country, and the conservators of the laws, and not as an armed mob who daily break the very laws they are specially ordered to execute. You should therefore enact a law, punishing by imprisonment in the State Penitentiary, any officer, non-commissioned officer or pri-

vate, or other person, acting or purporting to act under authority from the Confederate States, who shall seize, take, or impress property in this State, contrary to the laws made and provided by Congress. In order that the people may know their rights, and redress their wrongs, five hundred copies of the "impressment act," should be published and distributed among the parochial authorities of the State.

WOUNDED AND DISABLED SOLDIERS.

As yet the Congress of the Confederacy has not passed a "pension act." We have many wounded and disabled soldiers, who have been discharged from the army and are now wandering from Parish to Parish, living upon the charities of the public. It is our sacred duty to take care of these disabled veterans. They have given to their country health, youth, and manhood, all but life itself. Many have left their limbs upon the field, and are now unable to earn a living for themselves. They are emphatically the children of the State, and must be protected and provided for in this their hour of need.

I recommend that you enact a law giving to each soldier who enlisted from this State, and who has been wounded or disabled in the service of the State or Confederacy, the sum of eleven dollars per month, to be paid every two months. In order to carry out the provisions of this act, a commissioner should be appointed—a bonded officer—whose duty it should be to make a record of all the wounded and disabled soldiers of the State—to draw, upon his own warrant, the several amounts that may be due each one, and remit or pay over the same without any expense to the recipients of this Act.

COTTON CARDS AND MEDICINES.

One million of dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, should be appropriated for the purchase of cotton cards, by a commissioner. And when purchased, they should be distributed by him among the ladies of the State for personal use—in order that every white female in Louisiana above the age of eighteen, shall receive a pair of cotton cards free of cost and charges. We have no power looms or spinning machines in the State. The raw material is carded and spun, and warped and woven all by hand. This immense labor is cheerfully performed by our fair countrywomen. Their cards wear out in course of time, and must be replaced. They cost sixty dollars a pair. I appeal to you, gentlemen of the Legislature, as the guardians of the people, to come to the relief of your mothers and sisters, who toil unceasingly to clothe the soldier and the citizen. With grateful hearts they will accept this donation, and it will cheer them on amid all their trials, to more patriotic exertions, if possible, in behalf of our holy cause.

It is not too late for us to begin. We have immense resources. We can save the currency and the country. We will. It rests with you to say it shall be done.

It is my sincere desire that your deliberations may be harmonious, and that all your actions in behalf of the State of Louisiana shall be guided by wisdom from on High.

HENRY W. ALLEN,

Governor of the State of Louisiana.
Shreveport, La. Jan. 26, 1864.

On conclusion of the reading of the foregoing message, the various portions thereof were, on motion of Mr. Myers, referred as follows:

That part of the message relating to military affairs, to the committee on military affairs.

That part relating to the distillation of spirituous liquors, to the committee on the Judiciary.

That part relating to impressments, to the committee on Confederate relations.

That part relating to disabled and wounded soldiers, to the committee on military affairs.

That part relating to cotton cards and medicines, to the committee on Finance.

That part relating to the Judiciary, to the committee on the Judiciary.

That part relating to the currency, to the committee on Finance.

That part relating to free persons of color, to the committee on Military affairs.

That part relating to Internal resources, to the special committee on Iron Foundries.

On motion of Mr. Taylor of Carroll, five hundred copies of the Governor's Message were ordered to be printed for the use of the House.

Mr. Jack asked and obtained leave to withdraw from the files of the unfinished business of last session an act entitled:

An act to confirm the land claim of Pierre Dolet, with the accompanying documents.

The Speaker presented a communication from the Secretary of State relative to the election returns from the Parish of East Feliciana, which, on motion was referred to the committee on Elections.

The Speaker also presented a communication from the Auditor of Public Accounts relating to the contingent expenditures of his office, which, was on motion referred to the committee on Finance.

A message was received from the Senate through Oscar Arroyo, Esq., its Assistant Secretary, requesting the concurrence of the House in the following bills:

An act concerning printing for the Legislature and Executive Departments of the State government.

An act to punish Confederate officers and others for impressing private property in violation of law.

An act to amend and re-enact an act relative to Judicial proceedings against persons in the military or naval service, approved Dec. 21, 1861.

And An act for the relief of T. B. Thompson.

BILLS ON THEIR THIRD READING.

The bill entitled "An act to provide for the printing of the acts passed by the General Assembly at the session held in the town of Opelousas in 1862 and '63, was taken up on its third reading, an amendment was adopted, providing that five hundred copies of said acts be printed; also, 2nd Section the words "Ten thousand dollars or so much thereof as may be necessary," and as amended, the bill was engrossed, and the rules being suspended, was passed.

The bill entitled "An act to regulate the pay of Police Jurymen," was taken up on its second reading. The amendment recommended by the committee on the Judiciary was adopted, limiting its application to the Parish of Rapides.

The bill as amended was ordered to be engrossed and the rules being suspended, it was passed.

The title was amended so as to correspond with the bill, and adopted.

On motion of Mr. Kernan, the bill was reconsidered, when the same gentleman moved to amend the first section of the bill by striking out "the parish of Rapides," and inserting "all Parishes of the State," and by adding at the end of the section "Provided that the *per diem* shall not be increased during the term for which the members increasing the compensation have been elected.

Pending which amendment, on motion of Mr. Kerman, the House adjourned.

THURSDAY, January 28, 1864.

The House met at 10 o'clock, A. M.

Present: The Hon. J. B. Elam, Speaker, in the Chair, and

Messrs. Anderson of Madison, Berry, Chapman, Cotton, Cooley, Conville, Dougherty, Drake, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Gore, Griffin, Hawkins, Head, Helm, Hodge, Jack, Jamison, Jewell, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Mayo, McNery, Myers, Murrell, Morehead, Newsom, Osborne, Peck, Perkins, Pressley, Richardson, Robertson, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll, and Taylor of Union—37 Representatives.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. Mr. Mosely of Shreveport.

The journal of yesterday was read, corrected and approved.

Mr. Joffrion, chairman of the committee on Enrollment, announced that J. G. Arnold Enrolling Clerk, had been this day discharged on account of inattention to business.

Leave of absence was granted to Mr. Foulhouze in order that he might, as a member of the special joint committee appointed to examine the books of the Auditor and Treasurer, attend to the business of said committee.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES.

Mr. Taylor of Carroll, on behalf of the committee on Finance, reported on "An act to increase the salary of District judges during the war," unfavorably.

And on behalf of the committee on claims "An act for the relief of C L Mavor," favorably.

Mr. Cotton, on behalf of the committee on the Judiciary, reported favorably on the following bills:

An act to amend the first section of an act entitled:

"An act prescribing an additional oath for electors in certain cases, approved June 17th, 1863.

An act to amend the 1st section of an act entitled:

"An act prescribing an additional oath for commissioners of elections," and approved June 16th, 1863.

An act to amend an act entitled:

"An act prescribing an additional oath to be taken by State, District, Parish and Municipal officers," and approved June 16th, 1863.

And An act to authorize Lewis Phillips and his wife Harriet Phillips, to adopt Lewis Oscar Phillips, a minor.

And an act to amend an act entitled,

"An act relative to judicial proceedings against persons in the military or naval service," approved 21st December, 1861.

And on the bill entitled:

"An act for the relief of John Parnell and Elizabeth Parnell, his wife, of the parish of Caddo," unfavorably.

On the bill entitled:

"An act in relation to the Ferry across Red River etc." favorably by two substitutes entitled: 1st "An act in relation to the ferry across Red River at Shreveport," and 2nd, An act to repeal an act entitled: "An act to amend an act entitled an act to incorporate the town of Shreveport, and change the name of the seat of justice of the parish of Caddo, the town of Grand Ecote, and supplementary to the several acts for the government of the town of St. Francisville, approved March 29th, 1839," approved 16th March 1848.

Mr. Osborn, on behalf of the special joint committee appointed to examine the report of the commissioners appointed by the Governor to distribute the relief fund granted to exiles from New Orleans, made the following report:

The committee on Charitable Institutions to whom was referred the Report of the Commissioners appointed by the Governor under the act of the Legislature approved 18th June, 1863, entitled: "An act to ap-

propriate the sum of three hundred thousand dollars for the relief of the destitute citizens and families lately expelled by the Federal authorities from New Orleans and vicinity," and accompanying documents, beg leave to report.

That they have examined said report, vouchers, &c., and find that the said commissioners had expended in furtherance of their appointment, the sum of ninety-eight thousand one hundred and thirty-five dollars; that they had left on deposit with the Assistant Treasurer of the Confederate States, at Mobile, the sum of one hundred and forty thousand dollars, subject to the order of the Governor of this State, and had returned to the Governor of this State the sum of sixty-one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five dollars.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

M. S. OSBORN.

Chairman.

Which report was adopted.

Mr. Jack, Chairman of the committee on Elections, the 34th rule being suspended for that purpose, moved that three additional members be appointed on said committee.

Which motion prevailed.

The Speaker announced that he had appointed the Committee on Banks and Banking as follows:

Messrs. S. Jamison, W. H. Cooley, T. C. Anderson, J. A. Snider, W. F. Kernan, Robert Mott and E. B. Whitaker.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

The hereinafter named Representatives, without previous notice given, and with a suspension of the rules first granted, introduced the following entitled bills, which respectfully underwent their first and second readings and were referred as follows:

By Mr. Morehead:

An act for the relief of wounded and disabled soldiers, seamen and marines.

To the committee on Military affairs.

By Mr. Griffin:

An act for the relief of wounded and disabled soldiers.

To the committee on Military affairs.

By Mr. Newsom:

A joint resolution requesting our Senators and Representatives in Congress to use their influence upon the Confederate Government to send an officer or officers with power to pay the citizens of East Louisiana the claims they may have against the Confederate Government for property impressed, hire of teams, negro hire, &c.

To the committee on Confederate relations.

By Mr. Jamison:

An act to prohibit the issuing of license to any person who is not a citizen of the Confederate States.

To the committee on the Judiciary.

Also, an act to regulate the employment

of persons not citizens of the Confederate States.

To the same committee.

By Mr. Newsom:

An act for the relief of the Assessors of the different parishes of the State east of the Mississippi river.

To the committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. Mayo:

An act granting compensation to the Sheriffs for impressing slaves to work on the public works within the State.

To the committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. Jack:

An act to confirm the private land claims of Pierre Delot and Isaac Crow, North Western District, La.

And an act to confirm certain land claims in the North Western District of Louisiana, which with the accompanying documents were referred to the committee on Lands and Levees.

By Mr. Head:

Leave being first granted to withdraw the same from the files of the unfinished business of the House, and to present them as new bills.

An act to provide for the confinement of persons convicted of crimes, punishable with hard labor.

To the committee on the Judiciary.

An act to provide for the collection of the unpaid taxes of the years 1860 and 1861.

To the committee on Finance.

BILLS ON THEIR THIRD READING.

The consideration of the bill entitled:

"An act to regulate the pay of Police Jurymen in the Parish of Rapides," was resumed.

The Chair ruled the amendment offered by Mr. Kernan out of order.

Mr. Kernan moved that the vote of the House on the motion for the engrossment of the bill be now reconsidered, which motion prevailing, the bill was before the House on its second reading.

Mr. Kernan moved to amend by striking out the word "Rapides," and inserting the words "each and every parish of the State."

Mr. Snyder of Bossier, moved to lay the amendment on the table; on which motion the yeas and nays were called with the following result:

Kernan to lay on the table.

Yeas—Messrs. Anderson of Madison, Cotton, Convillion, Dougherty, Drake, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Griffin, Hodge, Jack, Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Mayo, McNery, Myers, Newsom, Osborne, Pressley, Snyder of Bossier—19.

Kernan to lay on the table.

Nays—Messrs. Berry, Blanks, Chapman, Gore, Hawkins, Head, Helm, Jamison, Jewell, Kernan, Murrell, Morehead, Peck, Perkins, Robertson, Taylor of Carroll, Taylor of Union—17.

So the amendment was laid on the table. On motion of Mr. Kernan the bill was postponed indefinitely.

Mr. Kernan asked that the rules be suspended to enable him to introduce a bill entitled:

"An act to amend and re-enact an act entitled, An act for the better protection of sureties on the bonds of administrators, executors, curators and tutors, approved March 17th, 1859.

Which was read twice and referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

The bill entitled:

An act for the relief of Philo Alden, Sheriff and Tax Collector of the Parish of Bossier, was ordered to be engrossed, and the rules being suspended was passed.

The bill entitled:

An act for the relief of the children of John Pierce and Hannah Perkins, was likewise engrossed and passed.

The title being amended by adding thereto the words "of the Parish of Rapides."

The bill entitled:

An act to amend an act entitled an act, amending the act concerning the town of Bastrop, was engrossed and passed.

The bill entitled:

"An act to exempt the Homestead of a property and Householder from seizure and sale in certain cases," was on motion postponed indefinitely.

The bill entitled:

An act to cut a dam on Bayou Jean de Jean, was agreeably to the recommendation of the committee on Land and Levees, referred on motion to a special committee to consist of the Representatives from the Parish of Rapides.

A message was received from the Senate through W. F. Wagner, Esq., its Secretary, asking the concurrence of the House in the following bills:

An act relative to Confederate and State Bonds.

An act to require the Supreme Court to hold a session in the town of Greenburg, La.

And an act to regulate interest.

SENATE BILLS.

The following Senate Bills were taken up, and the rules being suspended, underwent their first and second reading and were referred.

An act to appropriate \$250,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to pay for the hire or loss of slaves and other property, lost by death or otherwise, while in the public service up to the 1st day of December, 1863.

To the committee on Finance.

An act to punish persons for harboring deserters.

To the committee on Confederate relations.

An act to abolish the office of Superintendent of Public Education.

To the committee on Education.

An act to amend and re-enact "an act relative to Judicial proceedings against persons in the military or naval service," approved December 21st, 1861.

To the committee on the Judiciary.

An act concerning printing for the Legislature and Executive departments of the State Government.

To the committee on Printing.

An act to punish Confederate officers and others for impressing private property in violation of law.

To the committee on the Judiciary.

And the following Senate bills were taken up, and the rules being suspended, underwent their several readings and were concurred in:

An act authorizing Recorders to administer oaths.

An act to repeal the 2nd section of an act entitled an act relative to the State Library, approved March 15th, 1855.

An act to repeal the 97th section of the act entitled:

"An act relative to crimes and offences," approved March 14th, 1855.

An act for the relief of T. B. Thompson.

The bill entitled:

"An act to define the qualification of Jurors, and who are exempt from the duties thereof," was adopted as a substitute for the original bill entitled:

"An act curtailing the exemption of persons from jury duty during the war."

Being on its second reading on motion of Mr. Elam, it was amended by inserting in the 1st section, after the word "court" the words, "duly licensed and practising Attorneys at law."

On motion of Mr. Myers it was further amended by inserting after the words "Ministers of the gospel," the words "regularly ordained who have care of Churches."

On motion of Mr. Helm the bill was further amended, by adding after the words "druggists and" the words "one apothecary for each establishment."

On motion of Mr. Taylor of Carroll, the bill was further amended by striking out the word "repealed" from the close of the 2nd section, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "suspended during the existence of the present war."

The bill as amended was ordered to be engrossed, was read a third time by its title and passed.

On motion of Mr. Taylor of Carroll, the House adjourned.

—
WEDNESDAY, January 29, 1864.

The House met at 10 o'clock, A. M.

Present—The Hon. J. B. Elam, Speaker, and

Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Anderson of Madison, Berry, Blanks, Chapman,

Convillon, Dougherty, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Gore, Griffin, Hargis, Helm, Hodge, Jack, Jamison, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Kernan, Mayo, Mott, McEnery, Myers, Morehead, Newsom, Osborn, Perkins, Pressley, Richardson, Robertson, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll, 34 Representatives.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. Mr. Smith, Post Chaplain, C. S. A.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Leave of absence was on motion of Mr. Jamison, granted to Mr. Drake.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Mr. Foulhouze on behalf of the committee on public Education reported on a bill entitled:

"An act to abolish the office of the Superintendent of Public Education," favorably.

And on a bill entitled:

"An act to dispose by donation of Franklin College, belonging to the State, in the Parish of St. Landry," unfavorably by the majority, and favorably by the minority of the committee.

And on a bill entitled:

"An act to donate to Humble Cottage Lodge, No. 19, Franklin College, with its lands, buildings and appurtenances, located at Opelousas, La.," favorably by the majority, and unfavorably by the minority.

Mr. Snider of Bossier, on behalf of the committee on Confederate Relations, on the bill entitled:

"Joint resolutions pledging the resources of Louisiana for the further prosecution of the war," reported a substitute entitled:

"Joint resolutions relative to the further prosecution of the war."

Mr. Cotton, on behalf of the committee on the Judiciary, reported on the bill entitled:

"An act to punish Confederate officers and others for impressing private property in violation of law," favorably.

On the bill entitled:

"An act to provide for the confinement of convicts," favorably.

On the bill entitled:

"An act to amend and re-enact an act entitled an act for the better protection of sureties on the bonds of administrators, executors, curators and tutors, approved March 17th, 1859," favorably.

On the bill entitled:

"Joint resolution instructing the Auditor of Public Accounts to retain in his hands the public stocks pledged for the redemption of the notes issued to the Free Banks of New Orleans." The majority of the committee report favorably.

On the bill entitled:

"An act conferring additional powers on the Clerks of the District Courts generally," favorably with the following amendments: In the 1st section after the word

courts, in 5th line, insert the words "Parish of Orleans excepted." 2nd. To add as the 5th section: "That they shall have power to appoint special underintors, when the underintor is absent from the State or absent from the Parish in the army and navy."

On the bill entitled:

"An act to amend and re-enact an act relative to judicial proceedings against persons in the military or naval service, approved December 21st, 1861," unfavorably as this committee has already reported a bill on the same subject matter favorably.

On the bill entitled,

An act to prohibit the issuing of license to any person who is not a citizen of the Confederate States," unfavorably.

On the bill entitled,

"An act to regulate the employment of persons not citizens of the Confederate State," unfavorably.

On the bill entitled,

"An act increasing the fees of Sheriffs, Recorders and clerks of District Courts," unfavorably.

Mr. Griffin, on behalf of the committee on Public Printing, reported on a bill entitled,

"An act concerning printing for the Legislative and Executive Departments of the State Government," favorably.

Mr. Mayo, on behalf of the committee on Parochial Affairs, reported on the bill entitled,

"An act to amend and re-enact the second section of an act entitled an act to prohibit the distillation of grain, sugar, molasses or cane juice into spirituous or other alcoholic liquors," favorably.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

The hereinafter named Representatives, without previous notice given, the rules being first suspended, asked and obtained leave to introduce the bills entitled as follows which were respectively read twice and referred:

By Mr. Helm.

An act granting to the Confederate Government during the existing war the right to use for Government purposes timber on the public lands, to the committee on Public Lands and Levees.

By Mr. Newsom.

An act to re enact the 1st section of an act authorizing the appointment of Mrs. Mutoria Besancon,atrix of certain minors, approved March 20th, 1861, to the committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. Kernan.

An act to authorize litigants in the parishes east of the Mississippi River to take and file affidavits required by the act entitled "an act relative to proceedings in courts of justice in this State, approved June 19, 1863, to the committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. Kernan.

An act relative to the machinery and buildings of the State penitentiary at Clinton, La., to the committee on Finance.

On motion of Mr. Head the following resolution was adopted;

Resolved, That the proprietor of the Shreveport News while publishing the journals of the House be authorized and requested to send a copy of said paper to the clerks of the courts in every parish in the State free from the occupancy of the enemy.

The Speaker announced that he had appointed the following named Representatives as additional members of the committee on Elections in conformity with a resolution of the House: Messrs. W. L. Jewell, C. Gore, and S. Jamison.

The Hon. J. C. Barry, Representative from the Parish of St. Landry, was sworn and took his seat.

SENATE BILLS.

The following Senate Bills were taken up read twice and referred:

An act to require the Supreme Court to hold a session in the town of Greensburg, La., to the committee on the Judiciary.

An act to regulate interest, to the committee on the Judiciary.

An act relative to Confederate and State Bonds to the committee on Finance.

BILLS ON THEIR THIRD READING.

On motion of Mr. Cotton, the bill entitled:

"Joint resolution instructing the Auditor of Public Accounts to retain in his hands the public stocks pledged for the redemption of the notes issued to the Free Banks of New Orleans," was taken up out of its order on its third reading.

An amendment was offered and accepted to insert after the words "Auditor of Public Accounts," the words "and Treasurer of the State."

Mr. Mott offered the following as a substitute for the bill:

Resolved, &c., &c., That it is inexpedient to legislate at this time upon the subject of the Bonds deposited with the State Treasurer by the Free Banks to secure their circulation, the courts being open to the Banks claiming to redeem the same.

On motion of Mr. Cotton the substitute was laid on the table.

An amendment was offered by Mr. Foulhouze and subsequently withdrawn.

The bill as amended was engrossed, read a third time, and passed, the title being amended to correspond with the body of the bill.

The bill entitled,

"An act for the relief of C. L. Mayor," was engrossed, read a third time and passed.

The bill entitled,

"An act for the relief of Thos. H. Pitts

of the parish of Caddo," was engrossed, read a third time and passed.

The bill entitled,

"An act for the relief of John Hewitt." was engrossed, read a third time and passed.

The title was amended by adding the words "late Assessor of Rapides parish."

The bill entitled,

"An act to amend the first section of an act entitled: "An act prescribing an additional oath for electors in certain cases, approved June 17th, 1863," being amended by inserting in the amendment after the words "January, 1861," the words "taken of my own free will and accord and with the intention of aiding or assisting the enemies of the Confederate States; an oath to support the Government or the Constitution of the United States, or in any way declared allegiance to the United States, or," was engrossed read a third time and passed.

The bill entitled,

"An act to amend the 1st section of an act entitled, "an act prescribing an additional oath for Commissioners of Elections and approved June 19th, 1863," being amended in the same manner as the last mentioned bill, was engrossed, read a third time and passed.

The bill entitled,

"An act to amend an act entitled an act prescribing an additional oath to be taken by State, District, Parish and Municipal officers and approved June 16th, 1862,"—Mr. Elam moved to lay the bill on the table, on which motion the yeas and nays being called, the vote was as follows.

YEAS—

Messrs. Elam, Anderson of St. Landry, Anderson of Madison, Berry, Chapman, Gore, Griffin, Hawkins, Head, Hodge, Jack, Jewell, Johnston of Rapides, Mayo, Myers, Murrell, Newsom, Perkins, Pressley, Richardson, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll, Taylor of Union.—23 yeas.

NAYS—

Barry, Blanks, Cotton, Convillon, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Hargis, Jamison, Joffrion, Johnston of Iberville, Kernan, Osborn, Pitre, Ronbien.—14 nays.

So the bill was laid on the table.

The bill entitled,

"An act to provide for the confinement of persons convicted of crimes punishable with hard labor" was on motion of Mr. Kernan, the rules being suspended, taken up out of its order, engrossed, read a third time and passed.

The Senate through W. F. Wagner, Esq., its Secretary, invited the concurrence of the House in the following bills:

An act to re-organize the companies in the 1st Battalion, La. Cavalry, and 1st Battalion La. State Troops.

An act to organize the State Guard.

An act to authorize the Governor in cer-

tain contingencies to remove property of citizens of this State beyond the reach of the enemy.

The last named bill was on motion of Mr. Taylor of Carroll, the rules being suspended, read a first and second time and referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

A message was received from the Governor through Maj. Favrot, his Private Secretary.

On motion of Mr. Mott the House adjourned.

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 1864.

The House met at 10 o'clock, A. M.

Present: The Hon. J. B. Elam, Speaker, in the Chair, and

Messrs. Anderson of Madison, Barry, Berry, Cotton, Convillon, Dougherty, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Griffin, Hargis, Hawkins, Head, Helm, Hodge, Jack, Jamison, Jewell, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Mayo, Mott, McNery, Myers, Murrell, Morehead, Newsom, Osborn, Peck, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley, Richardson, Robert-on, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll, and Taylor of Union—37 Representatives.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. Mr. Mosely of Shreveport.

The Hon. J. Hunter Collins, representative from the Parish of West Feliciana, was sworn and took his seat.

Messrs. J. W. Mahle and A. H. Leonard, having been appointed by the committee on Enrollment, as enrolling clerks, were sworn.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES.

Mr. Cotton on behalf of the committee on the Judiciary reported on the following entitled bills:

An act to authorize the clerk of the district court in and for the parish of Calcasieu to make out a transcript of the record in all cases in said court.

Unfavorably.

An act to amend and re-enact the first section of an act, authorizing the appointment of Mrs. Mutoria Besanson, tutrix of certain minors, approved March 20th, 1861.

Unfavorably.

And an act to regulate interest.

Favorably by the majority of the committee.

An act to authorize the Governor in certain contingencies to remove property of citizens of this State beyond the reach of the enemy.

Unfavorably by a majority of the committee.

An act to authorize litigants in the parishes East of the Mississippi River, to take and file the affidavits required by the act entitled: "An act relative to judicial proceedings in the State," approved June 19, 1863.

Favorably.

An act to require the Supreme court to hold a session in the town of Greengburg, La.

Favorably.

An act declaring the license of certain persons forfeited &c.

Majority of committee report unfavorably.

An act to provide for the disposition of runaway slaves after the expiration of 60 days from the time of their confinement.—Favorably by substitute entitled :

"An act for the disposal of runaway slaves."

An act to repeal an act entitled an act relative to proceedings in courts of Justice in this State.

Unfavorably.

An act for the relief of the Assessors of the different parishes of the State east of the Mississippi river.

Favorably.

An act granting compensation to the Sheriffs for impressing slaves, &c. Favorably with an amendment.

An act to amend and re-enact the 1st section of an act, approved Jan. 23d, 1862, entitled :

"An act to amend and re-enact an act, entitled an act to provide a revenue and the manner of collecting the same, approved March 15th, 1855. Reported back with recommendation that it be referred to the committee on Finance.

Mr. Griffin on behalf of the committee on Military affairs, reported on the following entitled bills :

An act to amend an act entitled an act to provide for the support of the families of officers, soldiers, &c. Unfavorably.

An act to authorize the Governor to call into the State service free persons of color. Favorably with amendments.

An act for the relief of wounded and disabled soldiers, seamen and marines, and

An act for the relief of wounded and disabled seamen.

The committee report favorably by a substitute entitled :

An act for the relief of wounded and disabled soldiers.

Mr. Taylor of Carroll on behalf of the committee on claims, reported the bill entitled :

An act for the relief of N. Scopni and Francois Lattier.

Unfavorably.

Mr. Mott on behalf of the committee on Finance reported on the bill entitled :

An act to appropriate \$250,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay for the hire or loss of slaves and other property, &c. and

An act to repeal in part an act entitled an act to authorize the transfer of a part of the Free school accumulating fund, and of the Levee and Drainage fund to the gener-

al fund as a loan, approved June 20th, 1863 and for the retransfer of the same. Favorably.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

The hereinafter named Representatives, without previous notice given, and a suspension of the rules being granted, asked leave to introduce the following entitled bills which were referred as follows :

By Mr. Morehead :

An act for the relief of Elizabeth Flanagan, wife of Allen Flanagan, deceased, and

An act for the relief of Ellen O. Miller, wife of G. W. Miller, deceased. To the committee on Military Affairs.

By Mr. Helm :

An act directing the sale of the Public Lands of this State and raising the minimum price thereof. To the committee on Lands and Levees.

By Mr. Joffrion :

An act to prohibit the importation and sale of intoxicating liquors, &c.

To the committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. Snider :

An act to refund to certain Parishes the sums expended by them upon the public defences of Red River.

To the committee on Finance with the accompanying documents

An act of impeachment of A. M. Buchanan, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of Louisiana for the First Supreme Judicial District thereof.

To the committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. Elam :

An act for the relief of T. J. Williams, late Sheriff of the parish of DeSoto.

To the committee on Claims.

An act to authorize the Governor of the State to purchase of the Confederate States the title of corn and other produce for the use of soldiers' families.

To the committee on Military affairs.

By Mr. Myers :

Joint Resolution for the adjournment of this Legislature.

Lays over under the rules.

By Mr. Joffrion :

Joint Resolution fixing the day of adjournment for both Houses.

Lays over under the rules.

By Mr. Dougherty :

Joint Resolution relative to the appointment of a C. S. War Tax Collector for Louisiana.

To the committee on Confederate Relations.

By Mr. Newsom :

An act for the relief of Wm. Acres of the Parish of Livingston, to the committee on Military Affairs with accompanying documents.

Mr. Mott presented the memorial of J. C. Wingard, which, with the accompanying documents, was referred to the committee on Claims.

A communication received yesterday from His Excellency the Governor was read as follows :

Executive Office,

Shreveport, La. Jan. 29th, 1864. }

To the Honorable the Speaker of the House of Representatives :

Sir—Inclosed please find a communication from J. B. Wall, which you will please have referred to your committee on Military affairs, and oblige,

Very respectfully, your ob't. serv't.

HENRY W. ALLEN,
Gov. State of Louisiana.

The communication and accompanying papers were referred to the committee on Claims.

A message was received from his Excellency the Governor through Maj. H. M. Favrot, his Private Secretary, which was read as follows :

Executive Office,

Shreveport, La. Jan. 29th, 1864. }

To the Honorable the Speaker of the House of Representatives :

Sir—I have the honor to inclose to you certain claims of Messrs. Fulson and Landborn, which you will please refer to your committee on Military Affairs, and oblige.

Very respectfully, your ob't serv't.

HENRY W. ALLEN,
Gov. State of Louisiana.

The communication and enclosed papers were referred to the committee on Claims.

The Senate bills entitled :

An act to re-organize the companies in the 1st Battalion La. Cavalry, and 1st Battalion La. State Troops.

And an act to organize the State Guard.

Were severally read twice, and the rules being suspended, were referred to the committee on Military affairs.

The bill entitled,

"Joint Resolutions pledging the resources of Louisiana for the further prosecution of the war," was taken up.

On motion of Mr. Snider of Bossier, the substitute for this bill reported by the committee on Confederate Relations and entitled, "Joint Resolutions in relation to the further prosecution of the war," was adopted, which, the rules being suspended, was ordered to be engrossed, was read a third time and passed unanimously.

The House bills Nos. 37 and 47 relative to Franklin College were postponed until Monday next.

The bill entitled,

An act to authorize Lewis Phillips and his wife Harriet Phillips to adopt Lewis Oscar Phillips, a minor, was read a third time and passed.

The bill entitled,

An act conferring additional powers on the Clerks of the District Courts generally.

Was amended in accordance with the recommendation of the committee on the Judiciary, read a third time and passed.

On the bill entitled.

An act to amend an act entitled "an act relative to judicial proceedings against persons in the military or naval service." approved December 21st, 1861, was read a third time and passed.

On motion of Mr. Mott the House adjourned until Monday next.

MONDAY, February 1st, 1864.

The House met at 10 o'clock.

Present—The Hon. J. B. Elam, Speaker, and,

Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Barry, Berry, Blanks, Chapman, Collins, Cotton, Dougherty, Gilmore, Gore, Griffin, Hargis, Hawkins, Head, Heim, Hodge, Jack, Jamison, Jewell, Joffrion Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Lacy, Mayo, Mott, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Morehead, Newsum, Osborn, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley, Richardson, Robertson, Roubien, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll, Taylor of Union—41 Representatives.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. Mr. Smith, Post Chaplain, C. S. A.

The Hon. C. P. Bailey, Representative from the Parish of Washington, was sworn.

Mr. Morehead introduced a bill entitled: Joint resolution on authorizing the Printing of the Senate and House Journals.

The rules being, on his motion, suspended, the bill underwent its several readings and was passed.

Mr. McEnery introduced a bill entitled:

Joint resolution to authorize the Governor to take measures to prevent illegal impressments by Confederate authorities.

The rules being on his motion suspended, the resolution underwent its several readings and was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Kernan the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved. That the Finance committee of this House be requested to ascertain from the Treasurer, the amount of State Treasury notes issued and now remaining in circulation up to this date, and to report the same to this House as soon as practicable.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Mr. Cotton on behalf of the committee on the Judiciary, reported on the bill entitled:

An act of impeachment of A. M. Buchanan, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of Louisiana, for the First Supreme Judicial District thereof. Favorably.

Mr. McEnery, on behalf of the committee on Public Lands and Levees, on the bill entitled:

An act directing the sale of the Public Lands of this State, and raising the minimum prices thereof. Unfavorably.

And on a bill entitled :

An act granting to the Confederate Government, during the existing war, the right

to use for government purposes, timber on the Public Lands. Favorably.

Mr. Mott, on behalf of the committee on Finance, reported unfavorably on the following bills:

An act to provide for the funding, issuing and taxing Treasury notes.

An act to provide for the collection of the unpaid taxes of the years 1860 and 1861.

An act to amend and re-enact the first section of an act, approved Jan. 23rd, 1862, entitled:

"An act to amend and re-enact an act entitled an act to provide a revenue and the manner of collecting the same, approved March 15th, 1855.

On the bill entitled:

An act relative to Confederate and State bonds. Favorably.

On the bill entitled:

An act to refund to certain Parishes the sums expended by them upon the public defences on Red River, reported that action at this session of the Legislature is considered to be premature.

The bill entitled:

An act to suspend the further issue of State Treasury notes, was reported back without action.

The bill entitled:

An act to amend an act entitled: An act to authorize the Governor of the State to purchase wool and cotton cards for the benefit of soldiers, approved the 20th June, 1863, was reported by substitute entitled:

"An act to amend an act entitled an act to authorize the Governor to purchase cotton and wool cards for the benefit of the families of soldiers," approved June 20th, 1863.

The bill entitled:

An act to authorize the Governor to purchase medicines for the benefit of the families of soldiers was reported by a substitute entitled:

An act to authorize the Governor to purchase medicines for the benefit of the families of soldiers, sailors and indigent persons and families.

Mr. Foulhouze, on behalf of the joint committee for the examination of the books and accounts of the Auditor and Treasurer, reported as follows:

The joint committee appointed by the General Assembly at the annual session of 1864, to examine the books and vouchers of the Treasurer and Auditor's office, beg leave to report: That they have carefully and diligently discharged the duties required of them; and find the same correct. They also carefully examined and counted the Confederate notes, and notes of the State issue, under the act of 1862, No. 116,

and the following amounts were found on hand:

Confederate notes,	\$1,069,345 00
Confederate bonds,	27,850 00
State notes, act 1862,	256,026 00
	\$1,353,221 00

Of the Confederate notes, \$162,000 00 consist of interest paying notes.

Upon which the interest is yet due. Of the State issue there is \$98,300 00 of change notes. The committee recommend that the Treasurer be directed to convert the interest paying notes, and the Confederate bonds into the ordinary currency of the Confederate States; and further, that he be instructed to pay out, upon all warrants issued after this date, Confederate notes, and the notes issued by the State under act No. 116, of 1862, the later in such proportion only as will give a general distribution of change, until the amount now on hand is exhausted, and for any excess that may be required to meet the demands upon the Treasurer for the current fiscal year, they recommend that 6 per cent. bonds of the State having not less than twenty years to run be issued, and sold for Confederate or State currency, and thus prevent any farther issue of State notes in excess of the amount already in circulation.

The committee further report that they destroyed by fire in the Auditor's office, six hundred and thirty coupons, of interest, for thirty dollars each, amounting to eighteen thousand nine hundred dollars, representing voucher No. 561, of said office, for which they gave the Auditor a certificate.

J. W. McDONALD,
Chairman Senate Committee.
JAMES FOULHOUSE,
Chairman House Committee.

The report was adopted.

Mr. Griffin on behalf of the committee on Military affairs, reported favorably on the following bills:

An act to re-organize the companies in the 1st Battalion of La. cavalry. and 1st Battalion La. State troops.

An act to organize the State guard.

An act for the relief of Ellen O. Miller, wife of G. W. Miller, deceased.

An act for the relief of Elizabeth Flanagan, wife of Allen Flanagan, deceased, and

An act for the relief of William Acres, of the Parish of Livingston.

Mr. Jack on behalf of the committee on Elections, reported on the communication of the Secretary of State enclosing the returns of the late election in the Parish of East Feliciana, as follows, endorsed on the said returns.

The committee report favorably, and recommend that these returns be filed in the office of the Secretary of State, and that

they be of the same force and effect as the returns from other Parishes in the State.

(Signed.) W. H. JACK,
Chairman.

The report was adopted.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

The hereinafter named Representatives, without previous notice given, and a suspension of the rules being granted, asked leave to introduce the following entitled bills, which were referred as follows:

By Mr. Morehead:

An act to provide for the printing and distribution of the acts of the present session of the General Assembly.

To the committee on Printing.

By Mr. Joffrin:

An act for the relief of Berlin Childress, late Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senate.

To the committee on Claims.

By Mr. Jewell.

An act for the relief of Tom Bynum, State Printer.

To the committee on Printing.

By Mr. Mott:

An act for the relief of J. C. Wingard.

To the Committee on Claims.

By Mr. Collins:

An act for the trial of persons accused of offences.

To the committee on the Judiciary.

BILLS ON THEIR SECOND READING.

The bill entitled:

An act to appropriate \$250,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to pay for the hire or loss of slaves and other property, lost by death or otherwise, while in the public service, up to the 1st day of December, 1863.

On motion of Mr. Taylor of Carroll, the House resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, for considering the above mentioned bill, Mr. Head in the chair.

After the committee rose, Mr. Head reported that the House had had said bill under consideration and had adopted the first section.

The House resuming the consideration of the bill.

Mr. Taylor of Carroll, moved to take it up section by section, pending the consideration of which motion,

Mr. Kernan moved that the special order of the day be taken up, being House bill No. 37, entitled:

An act to donate to Humble Cottage Lodge No. 19, Franklin College with its lands, buildings and appurtenances, located at Opelousas, La.

Which motion, being carried, on motion of Mr. Snider of Bossier, the bill was postponed indefinitely.

And on motion of Mr. Kernan, the House bill, No. 47, on the same subject matter, entitled:

An act to dispose by donation of Frank-

lin College belonging to the State in the Parish of St. Landry, was postponed indefinitely.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE.

A communication was received from his Excellency, the Governor, through Maj. H. M. Favrot, his private Secretary, which was read as follow:

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,

Shreveport, La., Feb. 1st, 1864.

To the Honorable the Speaker of the House of Representatives:

SIR: I have the honor to submit the herein enclosed claims against the State, that they may be referred to and investigated by the appropriate committee.

Very respectfully, your ob't serv't,

HENRY W. ALLEN,

Gov. of the State of Louisiana.

Referred with the accompanying claims to the committee on claims.

The same gentleman informed the House that the Senate had concurred in House bill entitled:

An act to change the time of holding Court in the Parish of Caddo.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.

A message was received from the Senate, through W. F. Wagner, Esq., its Secretary, asking the signature of the Speaker to the following enrolled bills:

An act for the relief of T. B. Thompson.

An act to repeal the 97th section of an act entitled:

"An act relative to crimes and offences," approved March 14, 1855.

An act to repeal the 2nd section of an act entitled:

"An act relative to the State Library," approved March 15th, 1855.

Also, a message through O. Arroyo, Esq., its Assistant Secretary, announcing that the Senate had concurred in the House bill entitled:

Joint resolution instructing the Auditor of Public Accounts to retain in his hands the public stocks pledged for the redemption of the notes issued to the Free Banks of New Orleans.

Mr. Joffrin, Chairman of the committee on Enrollment, reported the last mentioned bill as correctly enrolled, and the signature of the President was asked thereto.

The bill entitled:

"Joint resolution for the adjournment of this Legislature," being taken up, Mr. Morehead moved that House bill No. 97, entitled:

"Joint resolution fixing the day for the adjournment of both Houses," be adopted as a substitute for the resolution before the House, which motion was on motion of Mr. Snider of Bossier, laid on the table.

Mr. Griffin moved to lay the bill on the table, which motion was lost.

Mr. Taylor of Carroll, moved to amend by inserting Thursday the 11th, instead of Saturday the 6th, and Mr. Snider of Bossier, moved to amend by inserting Friday the 19th, instant, in lieu of Saturday, the 6th.

On motion of Mr. Helm, both amendments were laid on the table.

Mr. Anderson of St. Landry, moved to amend by inserting the words, Wednesday the 10th instant, at 12 o'clock M., in lieu of Saturday the 6th., pending which motion Mr. Morehead moved that the House do now adjourn.

Which motion was lost.

Mr. Kernan moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Anderson, by changing the words, "Wednesday the 10th," to the "28th instant," and Mr. Helm moved to lay the amendment to the amendment on the table.

On which motion to lay on the table the yeas and nays were called for, and resulted as follows.

Yeas—Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Anderson of Madison, Barry, Berry, Blanks, Bailey, Chapman, Dougherty, Gilmore, Gore, Griffin, Hargis, Hawkins, Head, Helm, Hodge, Jack, Jamison, Jewell, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Lacy, Mayo, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Osborn, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley, Richardson, Roubieu, Taylor of Carroll, and Taylor of Union—36 yeas.

Nays—Messrs. Kernan, Morehead, and Snider of Bossier—3 nays.

So the amendment of Mr. Kernan was laid on the table.

Mr. Kernan moved that the amendment of Mr. Anderson be laid on the table, which motion was lost, and the amendment adopted.

The resolution, as amended, was then adopted.

On motion of Mr. Morehead, the House adjourned until to-morrow morning.

TUESDAY, February 2nd, 1864.

The House met at 10 o'clock, A. M.

Present—The Hon. J. B. Elam, Speaker, and,

Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Anderson of Madison, Barry, Berry, Blanks, Bailey, Collins, Cotton, Dougherty, Drake, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Gore, Griffin, Hargis, Hawkins, Head, Helm, Hodge, Jack, Jamison, Jewell, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Lacy, Mayo, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Morehead, Newsom, Peck, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley, Richardson, Robertson, Roubieu, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll, and Taylor of Union—43 Representatives.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. Mr. Mosely, of Shreveport.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

The Speaker announced that he had ap-

pointed the standing committee on Amendments to the Constitution as follows:

Messrs. J. Hunter Collins, James Foulhouze, G. W. McCranie, J. D. McEnery, W. Richardson, C. Gore and C. P. Bailey.

The Speaker announced that he had appointed as members of the special committee on Printing the Senate and House journals, as provided in House bill No. 111, the following:

Messrs. Morehead, Jewell, Snider of Bossier, Gillmore and Hodge.

The Speaker also announced that he had appointed the special committee on the State Laboratory, as follows:

Messrs. J. B. Robertson, W. F. Kernan, and W. H. Peck.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Mr. Snider of Bossier, on behalf of the committee on Confederate relations, reported on the bill entitled:

An act to punish persons for harboring deserters; that the majority of the committee were in favor of the 1st section, and unanimously unfavorably on the 2nd section.

On the bill entitled:

Joint resolution relative to the appointment of a C. S. War Tax Collector for Louisiana.

Unfavorably by the majority, and favorably by the minority.

On the bill entitled:

Joint resolution requesting our Senators and Representatives in Congress to use their influence upon the Confederate Government to send an officer with power to pay to the citizens of East Louisiana the claims they may have against the Confederate Government for property impressed, hire of teams, negro hire, &c. Favorably.

On the bill entitled:

Joint resolution relative to increasing the pay of non-commissioned officers and privates in the service of the Confederate States. Favorably by the majority and unfavorably by the minority.

On the bill entitled:

An act authorizing the publication and circulation of all acts of Congress, relating to the impressment of property. Unfavorably by the majority, and favorably by the minority.

The bill entitled:

Joint resolution relative to requesting our Congressmen to endeavor to have repealed certain exemption laws, was reported back to the House without action.

Mr. Head, on behalf of the joint committee to whom was referred the subject of Iron and Iron Foundries, made the following

REPORT.

The joint committee, to whom was referred the subject of Iron and Iron Foundries, beg leave to report, That they have been credibly informed that large quan-

ties of iron ore exist in many of the northern Parishes of this State, particularly in the Parishes of Claiborne, Bienville, Jackson and Union, and perhaps in DeSoto.—Although this important mineral is believed to exist in greater or less abundance in those parts of our State, yet the quantity and quality of the ore has never been tested. No Geological Survey of the State never having been made, it is impossible to say whether or not the other indispensable elements in the manufacture of Iron, to-wit: Limestone, wood and water can be found in sufficient quantities and in convenient proximity of a foundry, for the manufacture of Iron in our State. But in the Eastern counties of our sister State of Texas, the iron ore with the other important concomitants are known to exist in great profusion, and the Confederate government, with a prudent foresight, has established iron works that are now in full blast and others in course of construction in the State of Texas.

Your committee in view of the great importance of procuring a supply of this indispensable article, to the agriculturist, to the house-wife and to the defence of our country, beg leave respectfully to recommend that the Executive be authorized to send competent and experienced persons to examine thoroughly into these matters. If it should be found that these valuable minerals abound in our State in a locality that would justify the erection of works, that he should be clothed with power to give to the people their immediate benefits. If, on the contrary, it should be found that the ore cannot be found in sufficient abundance and richness, or that a locality that would not combine the conveniences of ore, limestone, coal and water, that then the Executive be authorized at his discretion to purchase a tract or tracts of land in the State of Texas, upon which to erect works for the manufacture of Iron for the use of the State. One of the greatest obstacles that has presented itself to the committee in discussing the propriety of the measure, is the difficulty of procuring the necessary amount of skilled labor to successfully inaugurate a work of this kind but your committee upon enquiry have been assured that the services of men experienced in the manufacture of Iron can be had to supervise the construction of the furnaces and other structures, and that the enterprise, if prudently managed, will in less than twelve months, demonstrate the wisdom of the undertaking, and result in unmeasurable relief and benefit to the people of our State, and in a short time repay the expenditure necessary to the establishment of the Institution.

Your committee beg leave herewith to present a bill embodying these views. In conclusion your committee acknowledge themselves largely indebted to the distin-

guished Chief of the Iron Bureau of the Trans-Mississippi Department, Col. Clemson, for much valuable information on these subjects.

Respectfully submitted,

A. ABNEY,
Chairman Senate Committee,
J. R. HEAD,
Chairman House Committee,

Accompanying the foregoing report was the bill reported by the committee, entitled:

An act to establish a mining and manufacturing bureau for the State.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

The hereinafter named Representatives, without previous notice given, a suspension of the rules being first granted, asked and obtained leave to introduce the following entitled bills which were referred as follows:

By Mr. Anderson of St. Landry:

An act to provide for the election of a constable of the town of Opelousas. Judiciary committee.

By Mr. Robertson:

An act to establish a State Laboratory. To the special committee on State Laboratory, consisting of Messrs. Robertson, Kernan and Peck.

By Mr. Griffin:

An act to amend and re-enact an act entitled "An act to authorize a session of the Supreme Court to be holden in the city of Shreveport or other places," approved June 18th, 1863. To the committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. Morehead:

An act increasing the fees of Justices of the Peace. To the committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. Taylor of Carroll for Mr. Kernan:

An act supplementary to an act entitled "An act to provide for the support of families of officers, non-commissioned officers, soldiers and marines in the military and naval service of the Confederate States and this State, being citizens and residents of the State of Louisiana," approved June 3d, 1863. To the committee on Military Affairs.

By Mr. Taylor of Carroll, on behalf of the finance committee:

An act to suspend the collection of taxes and,

An act to authorize the Treasurer to receive taxes that may be tendered him, which, on motion, were made the special order of the day for Thursday next.

An act to authorize the sale of bonds for the relief of the Treasury and the final liquidation of the principal and interest thereof, and

An act to authorize the Governor to suspend the signing and issuing of Treasury Notes, were ordered to be printed and

made the special order of the day for Thursday, at 12 o'clock, M.

MESSAGES.

A message was received from the Senate through W. F. Wagner, Esq., its Secretary, asking the concurrence of the House in Senate bills entitled :

An act to prohibit the seizing, taking or removal of any property in the State contrary to law, and

An act for the relief of John J. Wheat, of the Parish of St. Helena.

And announcing that the Senate had concurred in House bill No. 34 entitled

An act to provide for the printing of the acts passed by the General Assembly at the session held in the town of Opelousas in 1862 and 1863.

Also a message through O. Arroyo, Esq., its Assistant Secretary, asking the concurrence of the House in Senate bills entitled :

An act authorizing the Governor to appoint a commissioner to carry the money due the soldiers' families of the Parish of Livingston to said Parish.

An act to confirm certain claims to land commonly called "Rio hondo" claims.

An act to authorize the Judges of the 5th and 6th Judicial Districts to hold courts for the trial of criminal causes, and

Joint Resolution to cancel the bond of the Auditor of Public Accounts.

The same gentleman announced that the Senate had concurred in the following House bills:

An act for the relief of Philo Alden, Sheriff and Tax Collector of the Parish of Bossier.

An act to amend an act entitled an act amending the act concerning the town of Bastrop, and

An act to define the qualification of jurors, and who are exempt from the duties thereof.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE.

A message was received from his Excellency, the Governor, through Maj. H. M. Favrot, his Private Secretary.

ORDER OF THE DAY.

The House resumed consideration of the Senate bill entitled:

"An act to appropriate \$250,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to pay for the hire or loss of slaves and other property in the public service, up to the 1st day of December, 1863.

Mr. Snider of Bossier, moved to amend the bill by inserting the words "two hundred thousand," instead of "two hundred and fifty thousand," on which motion, the

Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Anderson of Madison, Barry, Bailey, Collins, Cotton, Dougherty, Drake, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Gore, Griffin, Hargis, Hawkins, Helm, Jack, Jamison, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Kernan, Lacy,

Mayo, McEnery, Murrell, Newsom, Peck, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley, Richardson, Robertson, Roubieu, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll, voted yea.

And Messrs. Berry, Myers, and Morehead voted nay.

So the amendment was adopted.

Mr. Kernan moved to amend the 1st section by adding the following:

Provided, however, that no person shall be entitled to the benefit of the provisions of this act, without proving that the slave died from neglect or fault of the military authorities or those acting under their authority; and that said proof shall be made in the same manner as the proof now required by law.

Mr. Cotton moved to amend the amendment by adding thereto the words:

Provided the price paid for each and every negro does not exceed the sum of twelve (1200) hundred dollars.

Mr. Kernan moved to lay the whole matter on the table and called for the yeas and nays, which resulted as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Barry, Bailey, Collins, Cotton, Dougherty, Hargis, Hawkins, Jamison, Jewell, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Kernan, Morehead, Newsom, Richardson, Robertson, Roubieu, 20.

Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Anderson of Madison, Berry, Blanks, Chapman, Elam, Drake, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Griffin, Helm, Jack, Lacy, Mayo, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Osborn, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll, Taylor of Union. 24.

Mr. Snider moved that Mr. Cotton's amendment to Mr. Kernan's amendment be laid on the table, which motion prevailing, he moved that the amendment offered by Mr. Kernan be laid on the table, which was carried.

Mr. Kernan moved to amend by fixing the price to be allowed at \$1500, which amendment was, on motion of Mr. Griffin, laid on the table by the following vote:

Yeas—Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Anderson of Madison, Berry, Blanks, Chapman, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Griffin, Head, Helm, Jack, Lacy, Mayo, Myers, Murrell, Osborn, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley, Roubieu, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Union. 21.

Nays—Barry, Bailey, Collins, Cotton, Drake, Gore, Hargis, Head, Helm, Jamison, Jewell, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Kernan, McEnery, Morehead, Newsom, Peck, Richardson, Taylor of Carroll. 21.

The Speaker voting yea, the amendment was laid on the table.

Mr. Kernan moved to amend by adding the following words: Provided that the sum allowed for any slave shall not exceed the sum of sixteen hundred dollars.

Mr. Griffin moved to amend the amendment, by inserting therein after the word

"slave" the words "hereafter impressed into service by the State."

Mr. Anderson of St. Landry, moved to amend the amendment by inserting \$2000 instead of \$1600, which motion was on motion of Mr. Cotton, laid on the table.

The amendment as amended was then adopted on motion of Mr. Cotton.

The same representative moved that the enacting clause of the bill be stricken out, on which motion, the yeas and nays were called and resulted as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Barry, Bailey, Collins, Cotton, Dougherty, Gore, Hargis, Head, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Jamison, Kernan, Morehead, Newsom, Peck, Richardson, Robertson. 18 yeas.

Nays—Messrs. Anderson of Madison, Anderson of St. Landry, Berry, Blanks, Chapman, Drake, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Griffin, Helm, Jewell, Lacy, Mayo, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Osborn, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley, Roubien, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll, and Taylor of Union—25 nays.

So the motion to strike out was lost.

Mr. Morehead moved to amend by inserting "six months after the war," which motion was lost.

Mr. Kernan moved that the substitute offered for the bill under consideration be adopted in place of said bill.

On the motion of Mr. Snider of Bossier, to lay the motion of Mr. Kernan on the table, the yeas and nays being called resulted as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Anderson of Madison, Berry, Blanks, Chapman, Drake, Griffin, Head, Helm, Lacy, Mayo, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Osborn, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Union. 20

Nays—Messrs. Barry, Bailey, Collins, Cotton, Dougherty, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Gore, Hargis, Jack, Jamison, Jewell, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Kernan, Morehead, Newsom, Peck, Richardson, Robertson. 22.

Mr. Griffin moved that the enacting clause of the substitute be stricken out, on which motion the yeas and nays were called, which resulted as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Anderson of Madison, Berry, Blanks, Chapman, Drake, Griffin, Hawkins, Helm, Lacy, Mayo, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Osborn, Perkins, Pitre, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Union. 19 yeas.

Nays—Messrs. Barry, Bailey, Collins, Cotton, Dougherty, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Gore, Hargis, Jack, Jamison, Jewell, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Kernan, Pressley, Richardson, Robertson, Taylor of Carroll. 23 nays.

So the House refused to strike out the enacting clause.

On motion of Mr. Snider of Bossier, the House adjourned until to-morrow.

TUESDAY, February 3rd, 1864.

The House met at 10 o'clock, A. M.

Present—The Hon. J. B. Elam, Speaker, and,

Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Anderson of Madison, Barry, Berry, Blanks, Bailey, Chapman, Collins, Cotton, Couvillon, Dougherty, Drake, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Gore, Griffin, Hargis, Head, Heim, Hodge, Jack, Jamison, Jewell, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Kernan, Lacy, Mayo, Myers, Murrell, Newsom, Osborn, Peck, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley, Richardson, Robertson, Roubieu, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll. 43 Representatives.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. Mr. Smith, Post Chaplain of the C. S. A.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Mr. Joffrion, on behalf of the committee on Enrollment, reported the following House bills as correctly enrolled:

An act entailing the exemption of persons from jury duty during the war.

An act for the relief of Philo Alden, Sheriff and Tax Collector of the Parish of Bossier.

An act to amend an act entitled an act amending the act concerning the town of Bastrop.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Mr. Griffin, on behalf of the committee on Military Affairs, reported back to the House without action, the "resolution relative to provisions being made for the support of soldiers' families, &c," referred to said committee on the recommendation of the committee on the Judiciary.

On the House bill No. 123, entitled an act supplementary to an act entitled an act to provide for the support of families of officers, non-commissioned officers, soldiers, and marines in the military and naval service of the Confederate States and of this State, approved January 3, 1863. Unfavorably.

Mr. Cotton, on behalf of the committee on the Judiciary, reported on the bill entitled:

An act relative to the trial of persons accused of offences. Favorably.

"An act to authorize a session of the Supreme Court to be holden in the city of Shreveport or other places," approved June 18, 1863. Favorably.

An act increasing the fees of Justices of the Peace. Unfavorably.

Mr. Taylor of Carroll, on behalf of the committee on claims, reported on the bill entitled:

An act for the relief of J. C. Wingard.—Unfavorably by the majority.

Mr. Collins, on behalf of the committee on Amendments to the Constitution reported on the bill entitled:

An act to provide for the call of a State Convention, after the war. Favorably.

The special committee consisting of the Representatives from the Parish of Rapides to whom was referred the bill entitled:

"An act to cut a dam on Bayou Jean de Jean, near Cotile," recommended that the same be withdrawn from the calendar.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

The hereinafter named Representatives, without previous notice given, the rules being first suspended, asked and obtained leave to introduce the following entitled bills, which were read twice and referred.

By Mr. Griffin:

An act to suspend the forfeiture of lots and lands of officers, non-commissioned officers, soldiers, seamen or marines, or of the families of such officers, non-commissioned officers, soldiers, seamen or marines, for the non-payment of taxes due thereon, for any year during the existing war.

Referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. Jamison:

An act to hold the first regular session of the General Assembly in the city of New Orleans after peace shall have been declared.

To the same committee.

By Mr. Presley:

An act for the relief of Robert W. Martin and his company.

To the committee on Military Affairs, with the accompanying documents.

By Mr. Elam:

An act to repeal an act entitled "an act to authorize the Governor of the State of Louisiana to press into the service of the State slaves and other property, for the public defense of the State during the present war" approved January 1st, 1863.

Mr. Kernan moved that the house take up the said bill out of its regular order.

The House refused to suspend the rules for that purpose.

The following resolution was offered by Mr. Morehead:

Resolved, That this House shall hold evening sessions from and after this day.

The resolution was laid over under the rules.

On motion of Mr. Cotton, it was

Resolved, That A. C. Bickham and M. S. Newsom be paid out of the contingent fund of the House, the amount due each one, say two hundred and fourteen dollars each, amount their mileage on committee on Jackson Railroad.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

A communication was received from his Excellency, the Governor, through Maj. H. M. Favrot, his private Secretary, requesting that certain claims therewith enclosed be referred to an appropriate committee.

The same were accordingly referred to the committee on claims.

The same gentleman informed the House

that the Governor had approved and signed the following bills:

An act for the relief of Philo Alden, Sheriff and Tax Collector of the Parish of Bossier.

An act to define the qualifications of Jurors, and who are exempt from the duties thereof.

An act to amend an act entitled "an act amending the act concerning the town of Bastrop," approved March 9th, 1861.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.

The Senate, through W. F. Wagner, Esq., its Secretary, asked the concurrence of the House in Senate bills entitled:

An act to regulate payments from the State Treasury.

Also, informing the House that the Senate had concurred in the bills entitled:

An act conferring additional powers on Clerks of District Courts generally, with an amendment.

An act to authorize Lewis Phillips and his wife Harriet Phillips, to adopt Lewis Oscar Phillips, a minor.

Also, asking the concurrence of the House in bills entitled:

An act to abolish the office of State Engineer.

An act to amend and re-enact joint resolution relative to the withdrawal from public sale or private entry or location, all the public lands of this State," approved June 18th, 1863.

Also, informing the House that the President of the Senate had affixed his signature to the following enrolled House bills:

An act curtailing the exemption of persons from Jury duty during the war.

An act for the relief of Philo Alden, Sheriff and Tax Collector of the Parish of Bossier. And

An act to amend an act entitled an act amending the act concerning the town of Bastrop.

The same honorable body, through its Assistant Secretary, Oscar Arroyo, Esq., invited the concurrence of the House in Senate bills entitled:

An act to abolish the office of State Librarian, and

An act to authorize the Parishes of Washington and St. Tammany to draw from the Treasury the amount due for the relief of families of officers, non-commissioned officers, soldiers and marines.

Also, informing the House that the Senate had concurred in the House bill entitled:

An act for the relief of Thos. H. Pitte of the Parish of Caddo, with amendments.

And in

An act for the relief of C. L. Mavor.

THE ORDER OF THE DAY.

The substitute of Mr. Jack, for Senate bill No. 11, being taken up, Mr. Taylor of Car-

roll moved that the vote by which the House adopted the substitute in place of the bill No. 11, be re-considered, on which motion the yeas and nays were called.

During the call of the roll, Mr. Elam, (Mr. Robertson being in the Chair,) asked that his name be called.

Objection being made, the Speaker pro tem. ruled that Mr. Elam had a right to a vote while on the floor. The decision being appealed from, the chair was sustained by the following vote:

Yeas—Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Berry, Blanks, Bailey, Chapman, Couvillon, Drake, Griffin, Head, Helm, Hodge, Jack, Lacy, Mayo, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Osborn, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley, Roubien, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll and Taylor of Union. 24 yeas.

Nays—Messrs. Anderson of Madison, Berry, Collins, Cotton, Dougherty, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Gore, Hargis, Hawkins, Jamison, Jewell, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Kernan, Morehead, Newsom, Peck, Richardson. 20 nays.

The decision of the Chair being sustained the call of the roll was continued, resulting on the motion to re-consider:

Yeas—Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Anderson of Madison, Barry, Berry, Blanks, Chapman, Couvillon, Drake, Elam, Griffin, Helm, Jack, Johnston of Rapides, Lacy, Mayo, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Osborn, Perkins, Pressley, Richardson, Roubieu, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll. 23 yeas.

Nays—Messrs. Bailey, Collins, Cotton, Dougherty, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Gore, Hargis, Hawkins, Head, Hodge, Jamison, Jewell, Joffrion, Johnston of Iberville, Kernan, Morehead, Newsom, Peck, Pitre, Richardson. 22 nays.

The Speaker pro tem. Mr. Robertson, voted no, and the motion to re-consider was lost.

On motion of Mr. Head, the House bill No. 60 was taken up, and the substitute reported by the committee on the Judiciary, was adopted in its stead.

On motion of Mr. Griffin the first section of the bill was amended by inserting in lieu of the words "within reach," the words "within one hundred miles of the Parish site thereof."

And on motion of Mr. Snider, the second section was amended by inserting in the sixth line thereof, after the word "provided" the words "for in judicial sales," and to strike out the word "above."

Mr. Foulhouze moved to adopt the following as a substitute for the second section and called for the yeas and nays:

That in case any runaway slave is not claimed within the time fixed by the first section of this act, he shall be hired by the Parochial authorities, for the benefit of the Parish where he is confined, and that six months after the end of the present war he

shall be advertised and sold as now required by law.

The vote on the motion of Mr. Foulhouze being taken resulted as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Anderson of Madison, Chapman, Dougherty, Drake, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Johnston of Iberville, Lacy, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Peck, Pressley, Roubien. 14 yeas.

Nays—Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Barry, Berry, Blanks, Bailey, Cotton, Couvillon, Gore, Griffin, Hargis, Hawkins, Head, Helm, Hodge, Jack, Jamison, Jewell, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Kernan, Mayo, Morehead, Newsom, Osborn, Perkins, Pitre, Snider of Bossier. 27 nays.

So the motion to adopt the substitute was lost.

The bill being engrossed and put upon its final passage, the yeas and nays being called resulted as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Anderson of Madison, Barry, Berry, Blanks, Bailey, Chapman, Collins, Cotton, Couvillon, Gilmore, Gore, Griffin, Hargis, Hawkins, Head, Helm, Jack, Jewell, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Kernan, Lacy, Mayo, Myers, Morehead, Newsom, Osborn, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll, Robertson. 34 yeas.

Nays—Messrs. Dougherty, Foulhouze, Johnston of Iberville, Jamison, McEnery, Murrell, Peck, Richardson, Roubien. 9 nays.

House bill No. 125, entitled:

"An act pledging the faith of the State of Louisiana to compensate for the loss of slaves and other property impressed into the service of the State, &c."

Mr. Snider moved to recommit the committee on Finance.

Mr. Kernan moved to lay the motion to re-commit on the table, called for the yeas and nays, which resulted as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Barry, Bailey, Collins, Cotton, Couvillon, Dougherty, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Gore, Hargis, Hawkins, Jamison, Jewell, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Kernan, Morehead, Newsom, Peck, Richardson, Robertson. 22 yeas.

Nays—Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Anderson of Madison, Berry, Blanks, Chapman, Drake, Griffin, Head, Helm, Jack, Lacy, Mayo, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Osborn, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley, Roubieu, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll. 22 nays.

The Speaker voting nay, the motion to lay on the table was lost and the motion to re-commit prevailed.

House bill No. 9, being the bill entitled: An act to provide for the printing of the acts passed by the General Assembly, at the session held in the town of Opelousas, in 1862 and 1863, was taken up.

The Senate amendment to the first section was adopted.

In lieu of the words "five thousand dollars," in the Senate's amendment to the second section, the words "seven thousand five hundred dollars" by Mr. Morehead, "eight thousand dollars" by Mr. Johnston of Iberville, and "six thousand dollars" by Mr. Griffin. were severally offered as amendments and lost.

Mr. Kernan called for the previous question, and the same having been seconded by a majority of the members present, the vote was taken on the motion to concur in the Senate's amendment to the second section of the bill.

The yeas and nays being called resulted as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Anderson of Madison, Barry, Berry, Blanks, Bailey, Chapman, Collins, Cotton, Dougherty, Gilmore, Gore, Griffin, Head, Helm, Jamison, Johnston of Rapides, Kernan, Lacy, Mayo, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Newsom, Peck, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley, Richardson, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll, Taylor of Union. 32 yeas.

Nays—Messrs. Convillon, Drake, Foulhouze, Jack, Jewell, Joffrion, Johnston of Iberville, Morehead, Osborn, Robertson, Roubien. 11 nays.

The amendment to the title recommended by the Senate was also adopted.

Mr. Kernan, on his own request, was relieved from serving on the special committee on the State Laboratory, and at his suggestion Mr. Morehead was appointed in his stead.

On motion of Mr. Taylor of Carroll, the House adjourned until to-morrow morning.

THURSDAY, February 4th, 1864.

The House met at 10 o'clock, A. M.

Present—The Hon. J. B. Elam, Speaker, in the chair, and

Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Anderson of Madison, Barry, Berry, Blanks, Bailey, Chapman, Collins, Cotton, Convillon, Dougherty, Drake, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Gore, Griffin, Hargis, Head, Heim, Hodge, Jack, Jamison, Jewell, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Kernan, Lacy, Mayo, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Newsom, Osborn, Peck, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley, Richardson, Robertson, Roubien, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll. 44 Representatives.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. Mr. Mosely, of Shreveport.

The journal of yesterday was read, amended and approved.

An act to authorize Lewis Phillips and his wife, Harriet Phillips, to adopt Lewis Oscar Phillips, a minor.

An act for the relief of C. L. Mavor.

On motion of Mr. Jamison, two additional members, Messrs. Griffin and Head, were

appointed by the Speaker, on the committee on Banks and Banking.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Mr. Griffin, on behalf of the committee on Military affairs, reported favorably by substitute on House bill No. 98, entitled:

An act to authorize the Governor of the State to purchase of the Confederate States the title of corn and other produce for the use of soldiers' families.

And on the bill entitled:

An act for the relief of Robert W. Martin and his company. Unfavorably by the majority and favorably by the minority.

Mr. Mayo, on behalf of the committee on Parochial affairs, reported favorably on the bill entitled:

An act to provide for the election of a town Constable of the town of Opelousas.

Mr. Jack, on behalf of the committee on Printing, reported favorably on the bills entitled:

An act to provide for the printing and distribution of the acts of the present session of the General Assembly. and

An act for the relief of Tom Bynum, State Printer.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

The hereinafter named Representatives, without previous notice, a suspension of the rules being granted, asked and obtained leave to introduce the following entitled bills which were severally read twice and referred:

By Mr. Johnston of Iberville:

An act to amend an act entitled an act to organize Free Public Schools in the State of Louisiana.

To the committee on Public Education.

By Mr. Snider of Bossier:

An act to amend and re-enact the 3d section of an act entitled:

"An act to provide a revenue, and the manner of collecting the same," and approved March 15th, 1855.

To the committee on Finance.

By Mr. Joffrion:

An act to authorize the Governor to contract for the construction of one iron-clad gun-boat. To a special committee of five Representatives, on which committee the Speaker appointed Messrs. Joffrion, Cotton, Kernan, Taylor of Carroll, and Dougherty.

By Mr. Lacy:

An act to appropriate the public lands of the State of Louisiana to the officers, non-commissioned officers and privates in the army of the Confederate States; also, all marines and others engaged in the naval service of the Confederate States.

To the committee on Lands and Levees.

By Mr. Kernan:

An act to repeal an act entitled:

An act to appropriate \$300,000 for the relief of the destitute citizens and families lately expelled by the federal authorities. To the committee on Finance.

On motion of Mr. Newsom, the rules being suspended, the bill entitled :

"An act to authorize the Parishes of Washington and St. Tammany to draw from the Treasury the amount due for the relief of families of officers, non-commissioned officers, soldiers and marines," was taken up, read three times and concurred in.

Mr. Newsom moved to re-consider the vote of yesterday, by which the House concurred in the Senate's amendments to House bill No. 9 entitled :

An act to provide for the printing of the acts passed by the General Assembly at the session held in the town of Opelousas in 1862 and 1863.

Mr. Morehead called for the yeas and nays which resulted as follows :

Yeas—Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Barry, Bailey, Collins, Couvillon, Dougherty, Drake, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Gore, Griffin, Hawkins, Head, Jack, Jamison, Jewell, Joffrion, Johnston of Iberville, Lacy, Mayo, McEnery, Myers, Morehead, Newsom, Osborn, Perkins, Pitre, Richardson, Robertson, Roubieu, Snider of Bossier, Taylor, of Carroll. 32 yeas.

Nays—Messrs. Anderson of Madison, Berry, Blanks, Chapman, Cotton, Hargis, Helm, Hodge, Johnston of Rapides, Kernan, Murrell, Peck, Pressley, Taylor, of Union. 14 nays.

So the motion to re-consider prevailed.

Mr. Foulhouze moved that the House refuse to concur in the Senate's amendments to the 1st section of the bill, on which motion Mr. Morehead called for the yeas and nays which resulted as follows :

Yeas—Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Barry, Bailey, Collins, Couvillon, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Griffin, Hawkins, Head, Jack, Jamison, Jewell, Joffrion, Johnston of Iberville, Lacy, Mayo, McEnery, Myers, Morehead, Newsom, Osborn, Perkins, Pitre, Richardson, Robertson, Roubieu, Snider of Bossier. 28 yeas.

Nays—Messrs. Anderson of Madison, Berry, Blanks, Chapman, Cotton, Dougherty, Drake, Gore, Hargis, Helm, Hodge, Johnston of Rapides, Kernan, Murrell, Peck, Pressley, Taylor of Carroll, Taylor, of Union. 18 nays.

Mr. Morehead moved that the House refused to concur in that portion of the Senate's amendment to the second section of the bill striking out the words "Ten thousand dollars" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "five thousand dollars," which motion was carried, and the bill was returned to the Senate.

ORDER OF THE DAY.

Bills Nos. 114, 115, 123 and 124 reported by the committee on Finance having been made the special order of the day for this day, on motion of Mr. Snider of Bossier, bill No. 124, entitled :

"An act to suspend the collection of taxes," was first taken up.

Mr. Snider moved to amend the first section by inserting the words, 'for the year 1862 and 1863' after the words 'laws' in the fifth line.

Mr. Foulhouze moved to amend the same section by adding at the end thereof the words

"Provided further that the property of persons in the military or naval service of the Confederate States or of this State, shall be exempt from seizure or sale for taxation, until twelve months after a definitive treaty of peace between the Confederate States and the United States of America."

Mr. Myers moved that the bill and amendments be laid on the table, and called for the yeas and nays on his motion, which resulted as follows :

Yeas—Messrs. Griffin, Morehead, Newsom.

Nays—Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Anderson of Madison, Barry, Berry, Blanks, Bailey, Chapman, Collins, Cotton, Couvillon, Dougherty, Drake, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Gore, Hargis, Hawkins, Head, Helm, Hodge, Jack, Jamison, Jewell, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Lacy, Mayo, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Osborn, Peck, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley, Richardson, Robertson, Roubieu, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll, Taylor of Union. 42 nays.

Mr. Myers then moved that the amendment and proviso be laid on the table, and called for the yeas and nays on his motion which resulted as follows :

Yeas—Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Anderson of Madison, Barry, Berry, Collins, Cotton, Couvillon, Dougherty, Drake, Gilmore, Gore, Hawkins, Helm, Hodge, Jack, Jamison, Jewell, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Mayo, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Peck, Pitre, Richardson, Roubieu, Taylor of Carroll. 28 yeas.

Nays—Messrs. Blanks, Bailey, Chapman, Foulhouze, Griffin, Hargis, Head, Johnston of Iberville, Lacy, Morehead, Newsom, Osborn, Perkins, Pressley, Robertson, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Union. 17 nays.

The bill was then ordered to be engrossed, and being put upon its passage the yeas and nays were called for and resulted as follows :

Yeas—Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Anderson of Madison, Barry, Berry, Collins, Cotton, Couvillon, Dougherty, Drake, Gilmore, Hawkins, Helm, Hodge, Jack, Jamison, Jewell, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Mayo, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Peck, Perkins, Pitre, Richardson, Roubieu, Taylor of Carroll. 28 yeas.

Nays—Messrs. Blanks, Bailey, Foulhouze, Gore, Griffin, Hargis, Head, Johnston of Iberville, Lacy, Morehead, Newsom, Osborn, Roubieu, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Union. 15 nays.

And the bill passed.

A message was received from his Excellency the Governor, through Maj. H. M. Favrot his private Secretary.

A message was received from the Senate through W. F. Wagner, Esq., its Secretary, asking the concurrence of the House in the bills entitled :

An act providing for the printing and distribution of the journals of the Senate and House of Representatives, and

An act to amend and re-enact an act entitled :

"An act to suspend all existing prescriptions," approved 10th June, 1863.

On motion of Mr. Morehead, the House took up the following resolution :

Resolved, That this House shall hold evening sessions after this day.

The vote being taken on the same, it was lost.

On motion of Mr. Foulhouze, the House adjourned.

FRIDAY, February 5th, 1864.

The House met at 10 o'clock, A. M.

Present: The Hon. J. B. Elam, Speaker, in the Chair, and

Messrs. Berry, Blanks, Bailey, Chapman, Couvilon, Drake, Foulhouze, Gore, Griffin, Hargis, Head, Helm, Hodge, Jack, Jamison, Jewell, Jeffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Kernan, Lacy, Mayo, Myers, Morehead, New-com, Osborn, Peck, Perkins, Pitre, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Union. 37 Representatives.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. Mr. Smith, Post Chaplain, C. S. A.

The journal of yesterday was read and

Mr. Gore asked permission to have his vote recorded among the nays on the final passage of the act relative to the collection of taxes, which was granted.

The journal was amended accordingly and approved.

The communication received yesterday from his Excellency the Governor, was read as follows :

SPECIAL MESSAGE.

Gentlemen of the Senate and

House of Representatives.

By proclamation from Major Gen. Banks in the several newspapers, you will see that an election is ordered in that portion of the State of Louisiana now in the possession of the enemy, for State officers.

The object of this proclamation is plainly to divide the people of the State and get many committed to Federal rule under the false and deceitful promises of an independent State government. Every man in Louisiana who has suffered from yankee outrages well knows that this is a mere mockery, for the action of the so called State government, will be throttled by the militia just so soon as it attempts to redress any grievances. I respectfully suggest that you immediately pass joint resolutions de-

claring that all who shall participate in said election, hold office by virtue of the same, or attempt to set up a government against the legitimate and regularly constituted authority of the State, are the only Rebels, and will be liable to all the pains and penalties of treason.

HENRY W. ALLEN,

Governor of the State of Louisiana.

Shreveport, La. Feb. 4th, 1864.

In relation to the foregoing message, on motion of Mr. Morehead, it was

Resolved, That the message of his Excellency, Gov. H. W. Allen, relative to the proclamation by the United State authorities in this State, for a State election, be referred to a select committee of — members on the part of the Senate, and five members on the part of the House.

And the Speaker appointed on said committee Messrs. Morehead, Kernan, Foulhouze, Head and Pressley.

On motion of Mr. Blanks it was

Resolved, That the printer of the journals in the newspaper be authorized to omit publishing Executive messages which may have been already published in his paper.

On motion of Mr. Robertson it was

Resolved, That the sum of one thousand dollars be and the same is hereby allowed to the Sergeant at arms of this House, said amount to be paid on his own warrant out of the contingent expenses of this House.

Mr. Myers presented the following resolution :

Resolved, That members of this House be hereinafter, during this session, limited to ten minutes in making remarks on any one subject.

Laid over under the rules.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES.

Mr. Foulhouze, on behalf of the committee on public Education, reported favorably on the bill entitled :

An act to amend an act entitled an act to organize Free Public Schools in the State of Louisiana.

Mr. Griffin on behalf of the committee on Military affairs, reported the following entitled bill :

An act to amend an re-enact section 18 of an act entitled :

"An act to organize the militia of the State and to repeal an act organizing the militia for the defence of the State, approved January 3rd, 1863," approved June 20th 1863.

Mr. Robertson on behalf of the special committee to which it was referred favorably on a bill entitled :

An act to establish a State Laboratory.

Mr. Taylor of Carroll, on behalf of the committee on Finance, reported favorably on the bill entitled :

An act relative to the machinery and buildings of the State Penitentiary at Clinton, La.

Mr. Griffin on behalf of the committee on Military affairs, reported on the bill entitled :

An act to repeal the Militia, unfavorably by the majority and favorably by the minority.

Mr. Cotton on behalf of the committee on the Judiciary reported favorably on the bill entitled :

An act to hold the first regular session of the General Assembly in the city of New Orleans, after peace shall have been declared.

Mr. Taylor of Carroll on behalf of the committee on claims, reported favorably on the claim of Switzer by a bill for his relief.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

Mr. Gilmore, without previous notice, asked leave to introduce a bill entitled :

An act for the relief of Wm. Robson of the parish of Caddo.

On his motion, the rule being suspended the bill was read twice and referred to the committee on Lands and Levees, with the two accompanying documents.

On motion of Mr. Head, the rules being suspended, the House took up the bill entitled :

"An act to establish a mining and manufacturing bureau for the State."

On motion of Mr. Snider the bill was ordered to be printed and made the special order of the day for Monday next.

On motion of Mr. Kernan, the rules being suspended, the House took up the bill this day reported favorably from the Finance committee entitled :

An act relative to the machinery and buildings of the State Penitentiary at Clinton, La.

On motion of Mr. Cotton, the 2d section of the bill was amended by inserting the words fifteen hundred dollars in lieu of the words one thousand dollars.

On motion of Mr. Foulhouze the bill was further amended by adding as the third section the following :

Section 3d. Be it further enacted &c., That an inventory of all the articles to be thus entrusted shall be taken by a notary public in presence of an agent to that effect, approved by the Governor, and of the person receiving it into custody.

On motion of Mr. Snider of Bossier, the bill was further amended by adding thereto as the 4th section the following :

Section 4th. Be it further enacted &c., That the Governor be and he is hereby empowered to sell said property or remove it to a place of safety as in his discretion may be for the best interests of the State.

The bill was then read a third time and passed.

Leave of absence was granted to Mr. Griffin at the request of his colleague Mr. Snider.

ORDER OF THE DAY.

House bill No. 114, entitled :

An act to authorize the sale of Bonds for the relief of the Treasury, and the final liquidation of the principal and interest thereof; was taken up.

The rule requiring the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole was dispensed with.

The first section was on motion of Mr. Taylor of Carroll, amended by inserting the words ten instead of fifteen, and adopted.

Mr. Newsom moved to amend the second section by substituting for the words "six per cent." for the words "eight per cent." Lost.

The second section was further amended on motion of Mr. Taylor of Carroll, by inserting in the seventh line the word 'twenty' in lieu of the word 'thirty'.

And on motion of Mr. Mott, by adding at the end of the section the words "provided that not more than one million dollars shall be made payable in any one year."

The section as amended was adopted.

The third section was amended on motion of Mr. Mott, by inserting in the 8th line the word 'two' in lieu of the word 'five.'

The 3d section as amended was adopted.

The 5th section was adopted without amendment.

The 5th section was on motion of Mr. Mott, amended by inserting in the 2d line after the word 'sell,' the words 'or exchange' and in the 3d line after the word "money," the word 'Confederate.'

The section as thus amended was adopted.

The blank in the 8th line of the 6th section was on motion of Mr. Taylor of Carroll, filled with the words "twenty-five."

And on motion of Mr. Elam, the section was amended by inserting in the 10th line after the word 'property,' the words 'rights and credits.'

The section as thus amended was adopted.

Mr. Taylor of Carroll offered as an amendment to follow the 6th section an additional section as follows :

Section 7th. Be it further enacted, &c., That the sum of three hundred thousand dollars be and the same is appropriated out of funds in the Treasury, not otherwise appropriated, to meet the current interest which may accrue upon the bonds as they may be issued under the provisions of this act.

On motion of Mr. Snider of Bossier, the section was amended by inserting instead of the words "three hundred thousand dollars," the words "six hundred thousand dollars or so much thereof as may be necessary."

The section as proposed and amended was adopted as the seventh section.

The blank in the 2d line of the 8th section was filled on motion of Mr. Taylor of Carroll, with the words 'thirty thousand dollars or so much thereof as may be necessary.'

The section was further amended on motion of Mr. Anderson of St. Landry, by striking out all from the words 'bonds' in the 6th to the words 'the seal' in the 9th line, and inserting in lieu of the words so stricken out, the words 'provided ten cents and no more shall be allowed the Assistant Secretary of State for each impression of.'

The section was further amended on motion of Mr. Foulhouze by striking out the 10th and 11th lines, and the section as amended, was adopted as the 8th section.

On motion of Mr. Mott, the following was adopted as the 9th section:

Section 9. Be it further enacted, &c., That all laws or parts of laws inconsistent with the provisions of this act be and the same are hereby repealed.

The 10th section was adopted.

On the motion being made that the bill be ordered to be engrossed, Mr. Kernan called for the yeas and nays which resulted as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Anderson of Madison, Barry, Bailey, Chapman, Collins, Cotton, Couvillon, Dougherty, Drake, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Griffin, Hargis, Hawkins, Head, Helm, Hodge, Jack, Jamison, Jewell, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Lacy, Mayo, Mott, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Newsom, Osborn, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley, Richardson, Roubieu, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll, Taylor of Union. 30 yeas.

Nays—Messrs. Blanks, Gore, Kernan, Morehead, and Robertson. 5 nays.

So the bill was ordered to be engrossed and was passed.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.

A message was received from the Senate through Oscar Arroyo, Esq., its Assistant Secretary, announcing that that honorable body had receded from its amendmets to House bill No. 9 entitled:

An act to provide for the printing of the acts passed by the General Assembly at the session held in the town of Opelousas in 1862 and 1863.

The Senate also through W. F. Wagner, Esq. its Secretary, asking the concurrence of the House in Senate bills entitled:

An act to emancipate William H. Brummett, a minor.

Joint resolution relative to illegal acts of spoliation by officers of the Confederate States army.

An act to authorize John Moore, tutor, to remove certain slaves beyond the limits of the State.

Also announcing that the Senate had concurred in House bills entitled:

Joint Resolution to authorize the Govern-

or to take measures to prevent illegal impressions by Confederate authorities.

An act for the relief of John Hewitt late Assessor of Rapides Parish.

Joint resolutions in relation to the further prosecution of the war, and Joint Resolutions for the adjournment of this Legislature.

Senate bills No. 65 entitled,

"An act authorizing the Governor to appoint a commissioner to carry the money due the soldiers' families of the Parish of Livingston to the said Parish," was taken up read three times and concurred in.

House bill No. 115 entitled,

"An act to authorize the Governor to suspend the signing and issuing of Treasury notes," was taken up on its second reading, and the rules being suspended it was on motion of Mr. Elam amended by inserting after the word notes in the 2nd section 7th line the words "authorized by existing laws."

And on motion by Mr. Snider, it was further amended by adding at the end of the same section the words, "Provided that nothing in this act shall prevent the re-issue or compel the cancellation of any Treasury notes of denominations less than five dollars.

The bill was then read a third time, ordered to be engrossed and passed.

The bill entitled,

"An act of impeachment of A. M. Buchanan, Associate Justice of the Supreme court of the State of Louisiana, for the First Supreme Judicial District thereof," was taken up on its second reading, ordered to be engrossed, read a third time and passed as follows:

An act of impeachment of A. M. Buchanan, Associate Justice of the Supreme court of the State of Louisiana for the first supreme judicial district thereof.

Section 1st. Be it enacted by the House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened, That A. M. Buchanan, Associate Justice of the Supreme court of the State of Louisiana, for the first supreme judicial district, be and he is hereby impeached of treason and high crimes to an against the sovereign State of Louisiana.

1st. In having since the 25th day of January, 1861, in violation of his duties as a citizen of this State, of his oath of office, and of his judicial duties, taken the oath of allegiance to the United States of America, the public enemy of the State of Louisiana, at a time when said enemy was openly waging war upon the State, and was in violent, unjust and illegal possession of a large portion of the territory of the same; and secondly, in aiding and assisting the said enemy in his efforts to subjugate the people of the State of Louisiana, and destroy the government of the State, having accepted office of the said United States

the public enemy of this State at the time the said enemy was engaged in open war against the same ; the said office being that of a Justice of the supreme court of the State, the same to which the said A. M. Buchanan had been legally elected by the people of the first supreme judicial district of the State, and in having exercised the said Judicial authority under the authority and received pay therefor from the officers of the said United States, all since the said 26th January, 1861 ; and thirdly in the same A. M. Buchanan, he being at the time the duly elected justice of the supreme court of Louisiana for the first supreme judicial district of the State, having aided, assisted and comforted the public enemy of the State of Louisiana, in consorting with, consulting with and supporting with his countenance and association the officers of the United States of America, since the 26th day of January, 1861, the said public enemy being at the time at open warfare with the State of Louisiana.

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, &c., That five members of this House be and they are hereby charged with the management of the impeachment, with the Senate of the State of Louisiana, and to request their preparation for the trial of the same at such time as may be convenient to the House of Representatives and to do all necessary acts for the prosecution of this impeachment.

Sec. 3. Be it further enacted, &c. That this act take effect from and after its passage.

Pending a motion to adopt the title on motion of Mr. Cotton, the vote by which the bill was passed was re-considered for the purpose of selecting a managing committee of Representatives to conduct the impeachment.

Messrs. Taylor of Carroll and Joffrion being appointed tellers, and nominations being made the House proceeded to vote for five representatives.

Mr. Mott received thirty-three votes, Mr. Kernan received twenty-nine votes, Mr. Cotton received twenty-three votes, Mr. Snider received twenty-three votes, Mr. Collins received twenty-six votes, Mr. McEnery received twenty-three votes, Mr. Anderson received six votes, Mr. Robertson received five votes, Mr. Taylor of Carroll received one vote, and Mr. Dougherty received one vote.

The Speaker then announced that Messrs. Mott, Kernan, Cotton and Collins were elected on said committee, and that there was a tie vote between Messrs. Snider and McEnery. Whereupon Mr. Lacy, who had nominated Mr. Snider, at his request withdrew his name, and Mr. McEnery was on motion declared elected a member of the said committee by acclamation.

The bill was then passed and the title adopted.

On motion of Mr. Robertson it was Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to wait upon the Hon. Preston Pond, and invite him to deliver an address to the public in the Hall of the House of Representatives some day before the adjournment of the Legislature.

And the Speaker appointed on said committee Messrs. Robertson, Jewell and Myers, who made the following report :

The committee appointed to wait upon the Hon. Preston Pond, beg leave to report that they have performed the duty, and the Hon. Preston Pond states that he will address the public in this Hall on Monday, the 8th inst., at 5 o'clock in the evening.

JNO. B. ROBERTSON,
Chm. Spec. Com.

February 5th, 1864.

On motion of Mr. Taylor the House adjourned until to-morrow.

SATURDAY, February 6th, 1864.

The House met at 10 o'clock, A. M.

Present: The Hon. J. B. Elam, Speaker, in the Chair, and

Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Anderson of Madison, Barry, Berry, Blanks, Bailey, Chapman, Collins, Cotton, Couvillon, Dougherty, Drake, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Gore, Hargis Hawkins, Head, Heim, Hodge, Jamison, Jewell, Joffrion, Johnston, of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Kernan, Lacy, Mayo, Mott, Murrell, Morehead, Newsom, Osborn, Peck, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley, Robertson, Roubieu, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll, Taylor of Union. 43 Representatives.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. Mr. Moseley, of Shreveport.

Leave of absence was granted to Mr. Bailey.

On motion of Mr. Taylor, of Carroll, it was

Resolved, That during the remainder of this session of the General Assembly, the House will meet at 9 o'clock A. M.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Mr. Taylor of Carroll, on behalf of the committee on claims, reported 'unfavorably on a bill entitled :

An act for the relief of Berlin Childress, late Sergeant at arms of the Senate.

And on,

An act to amend and re-enact an act entitled an act to provide a revenue and the manner of collecting the same. Favorably.

And on Mr. Jack's substitute entitled :

"An act pledging the faith of the State to compensate for the losses of slaves and other property."

The committee reported by bill which was read.

Mr. McEnery on behalf of the committee on Lands and Levees, reported unfavorably on :

An act to appropriate the public lands of the State of Louisiana to the officers, non-commissioned officers and privates in the army of the Confederate States, &c.

An favorably on.

An act for the relief of Wm. Robson.

An act to confirm certain land claims in the N. W. Dist. La. and

An act to confirm the private land claims of P. Dolet and J. Crow.

Mr. Joffrion on behalf of the special committee of five Representatives to whom it was referred reported favorably on a bill

To provide for the construction of a gun boat, which on motion of Mr. Dougherty, was made the special order of the day for Tuesday next at 12 o'clock.

On motion of Mr. Mott, the House took up the bill entitled :

An act for the relief of Thos. H. Pitts, concurred in the Senate's amendments and returned the bill to the Senate.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

Mr. Pressley introduced a joint resolution relative to District Courts, which on motion, the rules being suspended, was put upon its adoption and lost.

Mr. Cotton introduced :

'An act authorizing the Governor to appoint a Supreme Judge for the second judicial district.'

The rules being suspended the bill underwent its several readings and passed.

Mr. Anderson, of St. Landry, introduced :

An act for the relief of L. V. Chachere, late Sheriff of the Parish of St. Landry.—Referred to the committee on Finance.

Mr. Morehead asked and obtained leave to take up House bill, No. 79 entitled :

An act for the relief of wounded and disabled soldiers, being the substitute reported by the committee on Military affairs on the same subject matter.

The rules being suspended, the bill was on motion of Mr. Morehead, amended by filling the blank in section 6 with the words "two hundred thousand dollars or so much thereof as may be necessary."

The bill as thus amended was passed.

On motion of Mr. Pressley the House took up the bill entitled :

An act to authorize the Governor to purchase Medicines for the benefit of families of soldiers.

When on motion of Mr. Mott, the substitute reported by the committee on Finance, was adopted in place of the original bill. The substitute underwent its various reading, and on the motion being made to lay on the table, the motion to engross said bill, Mr. Taylor, of Carroll, called for the yeas and nays, which resulted as follows :

Yeas.—Messrs. Bailey, Kernan and Newsum. 3 yeas.

Nays.—Messrs. Anderson, of St. Landry, Anderson of Madison, Barry, Berry, Blanks, Collins, Cotton, Convillon, Dougherty, Drake, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Gore, Hargis,

Hawkins, Head, Helm, Hodge, Jack, Jamison, Jewell, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Lacy, Mayo, Mott, McEnery, Marrell, Morehead, Osborn, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll, and Taylor of Union. 39 nays.

So the bill was ordered to be engrossed and was passed.

The bill entitled :

An act to amend an act entitled :

"An act to authorize the Governor to purchase cotton and wool cards, &c.," was taken up and the substitute with the same title reported by the Finance committee, was adopted in its place. The bill was amended on motion of Mr. Couvillon, by adding two sections as follows :

Section 3d. Be it further enacted &c., That it shall be the duty of the police juries of the several Parishes to make or cause to be made correct assessments of all the families designated in this bill, and forward the same to the Treasurer of the State under certified signature of the President of the Police Jury.

Section 4th. Be it further enacted, &c., That the Treasurer of the State shall make his distribution accordingly, and give notice to the president of each police jury throughout the State that the same are subject to their orders.

The bill thus amended was ordered to be engrossed and was passed.

On motion of Mr. Morehead the House took up the bill entitled :

An act to organize the State Guard.

On motion of Mr. Mayo the first section was amended by inserting the words "or two battalions," after the word regiment.

The section as thus amended was adopted.

The second section was amended in the same way and adopted.

The third section was adopted, and

Pending a motion of Mr. Elam to strike out the 4th section, it was moved by Mr. Mayo that the bill be re-committed to the committee on Military affairs, with instructions to report on Monday next before 10 o'clock, A. M. with articles of war.

The motion prevailed and the bill was made the special order of the day for Monday next.

Mr. Morehead asked and obtained leave to withdraw from the files of the unfinished business of last session, the bill entitled :

"An act establishing rules and articles for the government of the army and militia of the State of Louisiana," which on his motion was, on a suspension of the rules, referred to the committee on Military affairs, to be reported on with the foregoing bill.

And the bill

"To re-organize the companies in the 1st Battalion La. Cavalry, and 1st Battalion La. State Troops," was also re-committed to be reported at the same time.

SENATE BILLS.

The Senate bill entitled :

An act to punish persons for harboring deserters, was taken up, amended by striking out the second section, and concurred in.

The bill entitled :

An act to regulate interest, was motion laid on the table.

The bill entitled :

"An act to amend and re-enact an act relative to judicial proceedings against persons in the military or naval service," was indefinitely postponed.

The bill entitled :

An act to abolish the office of superintendent of Public Education was taken up on its second reading, and the House refusing to suspend the rules to put it upon its third reading, it was laid over under the rules.

The bill entitled :

Joint resolution to cancel the bond of the Auditor of Public Accounts was concurred in.

The bill entitled :

An act concerning printing for the Legislature and Executive departments of the State government, was concurred in.

The bill entitled :

"An act to punish Confederate officers and others for impressing private property in violation of the law, was concurred in.

The bill entitled :

An act relative to Confederate and State bonds. Concurred in.

The bill entitled :

An act to require the Supreme court to hold a session in the town of Greenburg. La. Concurred in.

The bill entitled :

An act to authorize the Governor in certain contingencies to remove property of citizens of this State beyond the reach of the enemy, was laid on the table.

The Senate's amendments to House bill No. 49 entitled :

An act conferring additional powers on the clerks of the District Courts generally, were concurred in.

The bill entitled,

An act authorizing the Governor to appoint a Supreme Judge for the second judicial district, was on motion of Mr. Cotton, taken up and the rules being suspended, underwent its several readings and was passed.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE.

A message was received from his Excellency the Governor, through Maj. H. M. Favrot, his private secretary, informing the House that he had approved and signed the following House bills :

"Joint resolution instructing the Auditor of Public Accounts, and State Treasurer to retain in their hands the public stocks pledged for the redemption of the notes issued to the free banks of New Orleans."

"An act for the relief of John Hewitt."

"Joint resolution to authorize the Governor to prevent illegal impressments by Confederate authorities."

"An act to authorize Lewis Philips and his wife Harriett Philips to adopt Lewis Oscar Philips, a minor."

"An act to provide for the printing of the acts passed by the General Assembly at the session held in the town of Opelousas in 1862 and 1863."

"An act for the relief of C. L. Mavor."

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.

The Senate through W. F. Wagner, Esq., requesting the House to concur in the following entitled Senate bills :

An act relative to attachments in certain cases.

An act to authorize the Governor to raise a company of mounted men East of the Mississippi river.

An act to authorize certain persons to attach themselves to any military company in the State service.

An act to authorize the Governor to appoint a collector to receive and receipt for taxes East of the Mississippi river.

Also asking the return of the bill entitled :

An act to emancipate William H. Brummett a minor, for the correction of an error.

Also informing the House that the Senate had concurred in House bills entitled :

An act to authorize the Governor to purchase medicines for the benefit of the families of soldiers. and

An act to amend an act entitled :

"An act to authorize the Governor of the State to purchase wool and cotton cards for the benefit of soldiers," approved the 20th June, 1863.

A message was received from the Senate through Oscar Arroyo, Esq., its Assistant Secretary, returning the bill for the emancipation of Brummett, and requesting the signature of the Speaker thereto :

An act authorizing the Governor to appoint a commissioner to carry the money due the soldier's families of the parish of Livingston, to said Parish. and

An act to authorize the Parishes of Washington and St. Tammany to draw from the Treasury the amount due for the relief of families of officers, non-commissioned officers, soldiers and marines.

Also informing the House that the President of the Senate had signed the following House enrolled bills :

An act for the relief of C. L. Mavor.

An act to provide for the printing of the acts passed by the General Assembly at the session held in the town of Opelousas in 1862 and 1863.

An act to authorize Lewis Philips and his wife Harriett Philips, to adopt Lewis Oscar Philips, a minor.

An act for the relief of John Hewitt late Assessor of Rapides parish.

Joint Resolution to authorize the Governor to take measures to prevent illegal impressments by Confederate authorities.

Also, that the Senate had concurred in the House bill entitled,

An act to suspend the collection of Taxes, with amendments, and

An act to authorize the sale of bonds for the relief of the Treasury and the final liquidation of the principal and interest thereof, with amendments.

Also announcing that the Senate had concurred in the 'joint resolution for the appointment of a joint committee of both Houses in reference to the Governor's special message in regard to the State Election ordered by the Federal authorities,' and that Senators Barrow, Lott and Reeves had been appointed on said committee.

Mr. Joffrion, chairman of the committee on enrollment reported as correctly enrolled House bills No. 1. 9. 39. 41. 101 and 112.

The Senate's amendments to House bill No. 114 entitled :

An act to authorize the sale of bonds for the relief of the Treasury and the final liquidation of the principal and interest thereof, were concurred in.

The Senate's amendments to House bill No. 124 entitled :

An act to suspend the collection of taxes were concurred in with an amendment by the House as follows :

Amend the Senate's amendment by inserting after the word "collectors," and before the word "to" the words "after having given bond according to law."

The bill entitled :

An act to amend and re-enact an act, entitled :

And act to authorize a session of the Supreme court to be holden in the city of Shreveport or other places," approved June 18, 1863, was on motion of Mr. Kernan, taken up out of its order, engrossed and passed.

On motion of Mr. Cotton the House adjourned until Monday next.

MONDAY, February 8th, 1864.

The House met at 9 o'clock, A. M.

Present—The Hon. J. B. Elam, Speaker, in the chair.

The call of the roll dispensed with.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. Mr. Smith, Post Chaplain, C. S. A.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Mr. Morehead on behalf of the committee on Printing presented an approved bill for transit printing &c., from the proprietor of the Shreveport News.

Mr. Cotton on behalf of the committee on the Judiciary, reported unfavorably on the bill entitled :

An act to prohibit the importation and sale of intoxicating liquors in the State of Louisiana except for medical purposes.

Favorably on the bill entitled :

An act to repeal an act to prohibit the distillation of grain, sugar, molasses or cane juice into spirituous or other alcoholic liquors, approved June 20th, 1863.

The bill entitled :

An act to suspend the forfeiture of lots and lands of officers, non-commissioned officers, soldiers, seamen and marines for the non-payment of taxes due thereon for any year during the existing war, was reported back without action as the House has taken action on the same subject matter.

The bill entitled :

An act to amend the first section of an act relative to judicial proceedings against persons in the military or naval service, approved Dec. 21, 1861, was reported back without action as the subject matter has been disposed of.

The bill entitled :

An act to repeal an act entitled an act prescribing an additional oath for electors in certain cases, was reported back without action as the House has acted on the same subject matter.

The House bill No. 24 entitled :

"An act to license the distillation of spirituous liquors, was reported by substitute

Mr. Griffin on behalf of the committee on Military affairs reported favorably with amendments on the bill entitled :

An act to organize a State Guard.

The bill entitled ;

An act to re-organize the companies in the 1st Battalion of La. cavalry and 1st Battalion of Louisiana State Troops, the committee reported back to the House without action

An on the bill entitled :

An act to establish rules and articles for the government of the army and militia of the State of Louisiana, favorably.

Mr. Taylor of Carroll on behalf of the committee on claims reported favorably on the bill entitled :

An act for the relief of T. J. Williams, late Sheriff of the parish of DeSoto.

On motion of Mr. Morehead it was

Resolved, That the Auditor of Public Accounts be authorized to pay to the newspaper Printer of the House journal, such sum as may become due him, for publishing the balance of said journal which may be published after the adjournment of the Legislature, provided that said sum shall be paid out of the contingent fund of this House, and shall be computed at the rate of one dollar and fifty cents per hundred words.

BILLS TAKEN UP OUT OF THEIR ORDER.

On motion of Mr. Collins the rules were suspended and the House took up the bill entitled :

An act relative to the trial of persons accused of offences.

The first section was amended on motion of Mr. Snider, by inserting '48 hours' in place of '24 hours,' and by adding at the end of the section the words 'provided the number of jurors to be summoned shall not be less than that now provided by law.'

The 4th section was amended on motion of Mr. Head by inserting in the 2d line after the word 'trial,' the words 'or upon the petition of the district attorney.'

The bill as amended was ordered to be engrossed and was passed.

On motion of Mr. Helm. House bill No. 89 entitled :

'An act granting to the Confederate government during the existing war, the right to use for government purposes, timber on the public lands' was taken up, ordered to be engrossed and was passed.

On motion of Mr. Newsen, House bill No. 78, being the joint resolution relative to the settlement of claims against the Confederate government, 'was taken up and amended on motion of Mr. Mayo, by striking out the word 'East' before the word Louisiana, and also by inserting the word 'audit' in lieu of the word 'credit.'

The bill as amended was ordered to be engrossed and was passed, the title being changed so as to read : Joint resolution relative to claims against the Confederate government.

On motion of Mr. Morehead, House bill No. 99 entitled :

An act for the relief of T. J. Williams, late sheriff of the Parish of DeSoto, was taken up, ordered to be engrossed and passed.

On motion of Mr. Gilmore the Senate bill entitled :

'An act to organize a State Guard,' was taken up.

The first section was amended by inserting the words 'or two battalions' after the word 'Regiment' in the fifth line.

The second section was amended in the same manner, in the 1st line.

The bill was further amended by striking out the 4th section.

The bill as amended was concurred in.

On motion of the same Representative the bill entitled :

An act to re-organize the companies in the 1st Battalion of La. cavalry and the 1st Battalion La. State troops, was taken up and concurred in.

On motion of the same Representative the House bill No. 157 entitled :

"An act establishing rules and articles for the government of the army and militia of the State of Louisiana," was taken up and the rules being suspended, it underwent its several readings, was ordered to be engrossed and was passed.

On motion of Mr. Jack, House bill No. 21 entitled :

"An act to authorize the Governor to call into the State service free persons of color," was taken up and the amendments of the committee adopted except that on motion of Mr. Gilmore the amendment to the 1st section was amended by inserting the words "fifty-five" in lieu of the word "fifty."

On motion of Mr. Morehead, the 4th section was amended by inserting the word 'persons' in lieu of the word 'soldiers.'

On motion of Mr. Chapman the following proviso was added at the end of the 5th section, provided said person of color shall be exempt from said service by putting an able-bodied slave in his place and stead.

It was moved to reconsider the vote by which said proviso was adopted and the yeas and nays being called, on the motion to reconsider—

Messrs. Blanks, Dougherty, Drake, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Griffin, Hargis, Hawkins, Helm, Hodge, Jack, Johnston of Rapides, Jamison, Lacy, Mayo, Morehead, Osborn, Peck, Robertson, Taylor of Union, voted yea. and

Messrs. Anderson of Madison, Anderson of St. Landry Barry, Berry, Chapman, Couvillon, Collins, Cotton, Head, Jewell, Joffrion, Johnston of Iberville, Kernan, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Newsom, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley, and Snider of Bossier, voted nay. 20 yeas, 22 nays, so the motion to reconsider was lost.

The bill was then ordered to be engrossed.

On motion of Mr. Mott House bill No. 109 entitled:

"An act for the relief of J. C. Wingard, was taken up.

On motion of Mr. Cotton the words sixty thousand dollars were stricken out and it was moved that the blank thus caused be filled as follows :

By Mr. Johnston of Iberville, with thirty thousand dollars.

By Mr. Robertson with twenty-five thousand dollars.

By Mr. Taylor of Carroll with fifteen thousand dollars.

By Mr. Blanks, with ten thousand dollars.

By Mr. Cotton with four thousand dollars.

The vote was taken first on the motion to fill the blank with \$30,000.

The yeas and nays being called resulted as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Foulhouze, Jewell, Johnston of Iberville, Mott, Morehead. 5 yeas.

Nays—Messrs. Anderson of Madison, Anderson of St. Landry, Barry, Berry, Blanks, Chapman, Collins, Cotton, Couvillon, Dougherty, Drake, Gore, Griffin, Hargis, Head, Helm, Hodge, Jack, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Kernan, Lacy, Mayo, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Newsom, Osborn, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley, Snider of Bossier,

Taylor of Carroll, and Taylor of Union. 34 nays. *Lost*.

On the motion to fill with \$25,000, the yeas and nays were as follows :

Yeas.—Messrs. Anderson of Madison, Drake, Foulhouze, Jewell, Johnston of Iberville, Mott, Morehead, and Robertson. 8 yeas.

Nays.—Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Barry, Berry, Blanks, Chapman, Collins, Cotton, Couvillon, Dougherty, Gore, Griffin, Hargis, Head, Helm, Hodge, Jack, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Kernan, Lacy, Mayo, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Newsom, Osborn, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll, Taylor of Union. 32 nays. *Lost*.

On the motion to fill with \$15,000, the yeas and nays were as follows :

Yeas.—Messrs. Anderson of Madison, Chapman, Drake, Foulhouze, Helm, Johnston of Iberville, Kernan, Mott, Morehead, Osborn, Robertson, and Taylor of Carroll. 13 yeas.

Nays.—Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Barry, Berry, Blanks, Collins, Cotton, Couvillon, Dougherty, Gore, Griffin, Hargis, Head, Hodge, Jack, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Lacy, Mayo, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Newsom, Peck, Perkins, Pitre, Snider of Bossier, and Taylor of Union.— 27 nays. *Lost*.

On the motion to fill with \$10,000, the yeas and nays were :

Yeas.—Messrs. Anderson, of Madison, Anderson of St. Landry, Blanks, Chapman, Drake, Foulhouze, Gore, Helm, Jack, Jewell, Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Kernan, Mott, McEnery, Myers, Morehead, Newsom, Osborn, Perkins, Pitre, Robertson, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll. 24 yeas.

Nays.—Messrs. Barry, Berry, Collins, Cotton, Couvillon, Dougherty, Griffin, Hargis, Head, Hodge, Joffrion, Lacy, Mayo, Murrell, Pitre, Taylor of Union. 16 nays.

So the motion prevailed and the blank being filled with the words ten thousand dollars, the bill was ordered to be engrossed and was passed.

THE ORDER OF THE DAY.

The bill entitled :

“An act to establish a mining and manufacturing bureau,” was taken up and amended as follows :

In the fourth line of the first section after the word ‘be’ the words ‘and he is hereby’ were inserted. In the 6th line ‘empowered’ was inserted in lieu of ‘required’ ‘employ’ in lieu of ‘send,’ the word ‘a’ inserted before the word ‘competent.’ In the sixth line the word ‘persons’ was changed to ‘person,’ the first word ‘a’ was stricken out, the words ‘competent and experienced,’ inserted before the word ‘person’ which was changed to ‘persons,’ and in the 7th line the word ‘investigation’ was substituted for the word ‘survey.’

The section as amended was adopted.

In the 2d line of sec. 2, the words ‘be and he’ were inserted after the word ‘Governor’ and the words ‘for and in the name of the State of Louisiana’ were inserted after the word ‘authorized.’

The section as amended was adopted.

In the 2d line 3d section, the word ‘the’ was inserted after the word ‘and,’ the words ‘the creation of,’ in the 3d and 4th lines were stricken out and the words ‘or cause to be erected’ were inserted in lieu thereof. In the 7th line the word ‘production’ was changed to ‘producing,’ and the word ‘manufacture’ to ‘manufacturing,’ the order of the last three words in the 8th line was changed so as to read ‘metals and minerals.’

And the section as amended was adopted.

In the 3d line, 4th section, the word ‘some’ was inserted in lieu of the word ‘a’ after the word ‘appoint,’ and in the 4th line the word ‘scientific’ was stricken out.

The section as amended was adopted.

The fifth section was adopted without change.

The sixth section was stricken out.

It was moved that the blank in the 7th section be filled as follows :

By Mr. Peck, with \$700,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary.

By Mr. Johnston of Iberville, with \$600,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary.

By Mr. Blanks, with \$500,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary.

By Mr. Griffin, with \$300,000 or so much thereof, as may be necessary.

By Mr. Joffrion, with \$200,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary.

The motions were put in their order ; the first and second were lost and the motion of Mr. Blanks prevailed, and the blank being filled accordingly, the section was adopted.

And additional section was added as follows :

Section 9. Be it further enacted, &c.. That this take effect from and after its passage.

On the motion that the bill be ordered to be engrossed, the yeas and nays were called for and resulted as follows :

Yeas.—Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Anderson of Madison, Barry, Berry, Blanks, Chapman, Cotton, Couvillon, Dougherty, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Griffin, Head, Helm, Jack, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Lacy, Mayo, Mott, McCranie, Myers, Murrell, Newsom, Osborn, Peck, Perkins, Pitre, Robertson, Roubieu, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll. 31 yeas.

Nays.—Messrs. Collins, Gore, Hargis, Hodge, Jewell, Johnston of Iberville, Kernan, McEnery, Morehead and Taylor of Union. 11 nays.

So the bill was ordered to be engrossed and was passed.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.

The Senate through W. F. Wagner, Esq. its Secretary, asked the concurrence of the House in a bill entitled :

An act making appropriations for the general expenses of the State for the year ending the 31st day of March, 1865.

The Senate, through O. Arroyo Esq., its assistant Secretary, informed the House that it had concurred in the bills entitled :

An act to authorize the Governor to suspend the signing and issuing of Treasury notes.

An act relative to the machinery and buildings of the State Penitentiary at Clinton, La.

Also asking the concurrence of the House in bills entitled :

An act to authorize E. Hemenes to adopt Anna and Josephine Armstrong as his legitimate heirs.

Joint resolution authorizing the Governor to rent a building for certain State purposes.

An act relative to the payment of salaries of State officers.

Also that the Senate had refused to agree to the amendments of the House to Senate bill entitled :

"An act to organize the State Guard."

And that the Senate had also refused to accept the further amendment of the House to Senate amendment to House bill No. 124 entitled : An act to suspend the collection of taxes ; and that the Senate had appointed the following Senators on each of the committees of Conference relative to the said bills : Messrs. Texada, Pond and Lott.

Whereupon the Speaker on motion of Mr. Morehead, appointed on the committee of Conference on the first named bill, Messrs. Griffin, Kernan, Snider or Bossier, Morehead and Murrell ; and on the committee of Conference on the second bill, Messrs. Mott, Taylor or Carroll, Cotton, McEnery, and Anderson of Madison.

The first of said committees, through its chairman, offered its joint report, recommending that the House recede from so much of their amendment as includes the striking out of the 6th section of the bill entitled : An act to organize a State Guard, which report was adopted by the House.

The chairman of the committee of Conference on the bill entitled :

An act to suspend the collection of taxes recommended by their report that the House recede from its further amendment to the Senate's amendment, which report was adopted by the House.

The same gentleman informed the House that the Senate had adopted the reports of the committees of Conference on both the above named bills.

He also informed the House that the Senate had concurred in the amendments of the House to the Senate bill entitled :

An act to punish persons for harboring deserters.

Also that the Senate had concurred, with amendments, in House bill No. 74 entitled :

An act to provide for the confinement of persons convicted of crimes punishable with hard labor and confinement.

Also requesting the signature of the Speaker to the following Senate enrolled bills.

An act relative to Confederate and State bonds.

An act concerning printing for the Executive and Legislative Departments of the State Government.

An act to punish Confederate officers and others for impressing private property in violation of law.

An act to require the Supreme Court to hold a session in the town of Greensburg Louisiana.

An act to punish persons for harboring deserters.

An act to re-organize the companies in the 1st Battalion La. Cavalry, and the 1st Battalion La. State Troops—and,

Joint Resolution to cancel the bond of the Auditor of Public Accounts.

Also informing the House that the President of the Senate had signed the House enrolled bills numbered as follows ; 1, 39, 49, 62 and 114.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

A message was received from His Excellency the Governor through Maj. H. M. Favrot, Esq., his private Secretary informing the House that he had approved and signed the following entitled House bills :

"An act to authorize the sale of Bonds for the relief of the Treasury and final liquidation of the principal and interest there-of"

"An act for the relief of Thomas H Pitts, of the Parish of Caddo.

"Joint Resolutions in relation to the further prosecution of this war."

"An act conferring additional powers on the Clerks of the District Courts generally."

"An act to authorize the Governor to purchase medicines for the benefit of the families of soldiers, sailors, and indigent persons and families."

Mr. Joffrion, chairman of the Committee on Enrollment, reported as correctly enrolled House bills No. 49, 62, 114.

On motion of Mr. Cotton the House adjourned.

TUESDAY, February 9th, 1864.

The House met at 9 o'clock.

Present—The Hon. J. B. Elam, Speaker, and

Messrs. Berry, Blanks, Chapman, Cotton, Couvillon, Dougherty, Drake, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Griffin, Hargis, Head, Hodge, Jack, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Lacy,

Mayo, Mott, Murrell, Morehead, Newsom, Osborn, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley, Roubien, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll, Taylor of Union. 32 Representatives.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Mr. Morehead on behalf of the committee on Printing presented approved bills for printing ordered by the House, which were referred to the committee on contingent expenses.

Mr. Taylor of Carroll presented the following

HOUSE RESOLUTION.

Whereas, by resolution of this House. Hon. Preston Pond was invited to deliver to the public, an address upon the absorbing topics which now agitate the minds of our people; and whereas, this House, at the time this resolution was adopted, were not apprised of what would be the character of said address; and whereas, in said address, the Administration at Richmond was censured, and nearly every measure of government, from its inception to the present time, was reviewed and condemned; therefore, in order to place ourselves right before the country

Be it resolved, That, the tone and tendency of said address being of such a nature as to dishearten our people, and produce discontent, when we should do all that we can to encourage them, and aid the government, we distinctly declare that the sentiments therein expressed do not reflect the opinions of this House.

Mr. McEnery moved that the above resolution be laid upon the table, on which motion Mr. Cotton called for the yeas and nays which resulted as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Anderson, of St. Landry. Anderson of Madison, Barry, Blanks, Collins, Dougherty, Drake, Gore, Helm, Jack, Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Kernan, Mayo, McEnery, Murrell, Morehead, Newsom, Perkins, Pitre, Robertson, Roubieu, Taylor of Union. 23 yeas.

Nays—Messrs. Berry, Cotton, Couvillon, Elam, Foulhouze, Griffin, Hawkins, Hodge, Jamison, Joffrion, Lacy, Mott, Myers, Osborn, Pressley, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll. 17 nays.

So the resolution was laid on the table.

Mr. Kernan presented a memorial relative the collection of taxes. Referred to the committee on Finance.

Mr. Joffrion, Chairman of the committee on Enrollment, reported as correctly enrolled the House bills Nos. 63, 87, 115, 124, 79, 89, and 131.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Mr. Taylor, on behalf of the committee on Claims, asked and obtained leave to withdraw the claim of Mr. Wall.

Mr. Anderson, on behalf of the committee on Contingent Expenses, made the following report which was adopted:

REPORT.

The Joint Committee to whom was referred for examination the contingent expense, accounts of the Auditor, Treasurer and Gov. Thos. O. Moore. beg leave to report, that they have carefully examined the same, compared the vouchers submitted and find them to agree with the expenditures.

The amount expended by the Governor since his last report 30th December, 1862, we find to amount to \$3323 58, leaving a balance on hand of former appropriations of \$8119 18, of which \$810 41 is unavailable, being in the Bank at Baton Rouge, leaving a balance on hand and transferred to the credit of his successor, of \$7308 77.

The amount of expenditures by the Auditor since his last report 1st April 1863, to 31st December, 1863, is found to be \$816 33, leaving an unexpended balance of \$186 67.

The expenditures in the Treasurer's office from 1st of January 1863, to 1st of January, 1864, amounts to \$149 10, all which is respectfully submitted.

J. W. McDONALD,

Chairman Senate Committee.

THO. C. ANDERSON.

Act'g. Chairman House Committee.

The Joint Special Committee to which was referred the special message of His Excellency the Governor, relative to the establishment of a spurious State Government by the Federal authorities, through Mr. Morehead, reported a series of Joint Resolutions, which at a later hour were adopted by concurrence of the Senate, also the following report:

The Joint Committee to whom was referred the message of his Excellency, the Governor, in relation to a proclamation by Major General Banks, of the United States Army, for an election to organize a State Government, beg leave to report to the House, "Joint Resolutions relative to the illegal organization of a State Government by the enemy," and respectfully recommend its passage.

A. BARROW,

Chairman Senate Committee.

E. F. MOREHEAD,

Chairman House Committee.

Mr. Head, leave being granted, introduced a bill entitled:

An act to amend and re-enact the 4th, 7th, 8th and 9th sections of an act providing for runaway slaves and establishing a general depot for the same, approved March 19th 1857.

The rules being suspended the bill underwent its several readings and was passed.

BILLS OUT OF THEIR ORDER.

Mr. McEnery asked and obtained leave

to call up out of its order Senate bill entitled :

An act relative to the payment of salaries of State officers, which underwent its several readings and was concurred in.

On motion of Mr. Morehead House bills 104 and 105

An act for the relief of Elizabeth Flanagan, wife of Allen Flanagan, deceased. and—

An act for the relief of Ellen O. Miller, wife of G. W. Miller deceased.

Were taken up, underwent their several readings and were passed.

On motion of Mr. Mott, the rule requiring the House to go into committee of the whole, being suspended, the Senate bill entitled.

An act making appropriations for the general expenses of the State for the year ending 31st day of March, 1865.

Was taken up. The first item was adopted without change.

The second item was on motion of Mr. Morehead, amended by adding thereto the words "and one thousand dollars for house rent."

To the third item the same amendment was offered.

Mr. Blanks called for the yeas and nays which resulted as follows :

Yeas.—Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Anderson of Madison, Barry, Chapman, Couvillon, Dougherty, Drake, Foulhouze, Hargis, Hawkins, Head, Hodge, Jamison, Jewell, Johnston of Iberville, Kernan, Mott, Myers, Morehead, Osborn, Peck, Perkins, Pitre, Roubieu.—24 yeas.

Nays.—Messrs. Berry, Blanks, Collins, Cotton, Gilmore, Griffin, Jack, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Lacy, Mayo, Murrell, Newsom, Pressley, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Union. 16 nays.

So the amendment was adopted.

The same amendment was offered to the 4th item and the yeas and nays being called resulted as follows :

Yeas.—Messrs. Anderson, of Madison, Anderson of St. Landry, Barry, Chapman, Collins, Couvillon, Dougherty, Drake, Foulhouze, Hargis, Hawkins, Head, Helm, Jamison, Jewell, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Kernan, Mayo, Mott, Myers, Morehead, Osborn, Peck, Perkins, Pitre, Roubieu. 28 yeas.

Nays.—Messrs. Berry, Blanks, Cotton, Griffin, Hodge, Jack, Lacy, Murrell, Newsom, Pressley, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Union. 12 nays.

So the amendment to the 4th item was adopted.

The 5th, 6th and 7th items were adopted without change.

The 8th item was amended by inserting the words 'two thousand' in lieu of 'twelve hundred.'

The 9th item was adopted without change.

The 10th item was amended by adding "and one thousand dollars for house rent."

The 11th, 12th, 13th and 14th were adopted without change.

The fifteenth was increased \$500. The 16th was increased \$300. The 17th was adopted without change. The 18th was reduced to \$2000.

The 19th item was amended by adding "and one thousand dollars for house rent," also by adding "and \$2500 for salary of Chief Clerk, and \$2000 for salary of Ass't. Clerk."

Items 20, 21, 22, 23 and 24, were adopted without change.

Item 25 was increased to \$3500.

Items 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50 and 51, were adopted without change.

On motion of Mr. Mott, an item of \$5000 was added for salary of the Reporter of the Supreme Court for 1863 and 1864.

An item of \$1000 was added to pay expenses of court-martial at Opelousas.

Also an item, on motion of Mr. Snider of Bossier, to supply the deficiency in the appropriation made under an act entitled : "An act to appropriate \$500,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay for the hire or loss of slaves or other property lost by death or otherwise, while employed on the public works within the State, and approved June 28, 1863,—Two hundred thousand dollars.

On motion of Mr. Mott the section comprising the above items as amended and added was adopted.

On motion of the same Representative the 2d section was amended by adding thereto the words :

"And that all laws and parts of laws conflicting with the provisions of this act be and they are hereby repealed."

The section as amended was adopted and the bill was passed.

The bill was sent to the Senate and that body concurred in the amendments of the House except the addition made by the House to section second.

On motion of Mr. Mott the House receded from said amendment and the bill was returned to the senate.

The House bill No. 74 entitled :

An act to provide for the confinement of persons convicted of crimes punishable with hard labor, was taken up and the Senate's amendments concurred in.

Mr. Blanks asked and obtained leave of absence for Mr. Hodge

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.

The Senate, through Oscar Arroyo, its Assistant Secretary, informed the House that the Senate had concurred in the following entitled House bills:

An act for the relief of T. J. Williams, late Sheriff of the Parish of DeSoto.

An act relative to the trial of persons accused of offences."

An act to provide for the printing and distribution of the acts of the present session of the General Assembly."

An act establishing rules and articles for the Government of the army and militia of the State of Louisiana.

An act granting to the Confederate Government during the existing war the right to use for Government purposes timber on the public lands.

An act to amend and re-enact an act entitled :

An act to authorize a session of the Supreme Court to be holden in the city of Shreveport or other places, approved June 18th, 1863.

An act to establish a mining and manufacturing bureau for the State.

An act for the relief of wounded and disabled soldiers.

An act for the relief of Wm. Robson, of the parish of Caddo.

An act for the relief of the Assessors of the different Parishes of the State east of the Mississippi river.

An act for the relief of Elizabeth Flanagan, wife of Allen Flanagan, deceased.

An act for the relief of Ellen O. Miller, wife of G. W. Miller, deceased.

Also that the Senate had concurred with amendments to the following entitled House bills:

An act to amend an act entitled an act relative to Judicial proceedings against persons in the military or naval service, approved 21st Dec., 1861.

An act for the relief of J. C. Wingard.

Joint Resolution relative to claims against the Confederate Government.

An asking the concurrence of the House of the following entitled Senate bills :

An act for the relief of Sheriffs and State Tax Collectors.

An act prescribing an additional oath to be taken by attorneys at law in the State of Louisiana.

The same gentleman informed the House that the President pro tem. of the Senate had signed the following entitled enrolled House bills, to-wit :

'An act relative to the machinery and buildings of the State Penitentiary at Clinton, La.'

An act to amend an act entitled :

An act to authorize the Governor of the State to purchase wool and cotton cards for the benefit of soldiers, approved 20th June, 1863.

An act to authorize the Governor to suspend the signing and issuing of Treasury notes.

An act for the relief of wounded and disabled soldiers.

An act granting to the Confederate Government during the existing war the right

to use for Government purposes timber on the public lands.

An act to suspend the collection of taxes.

An act to amend and re-enact an act entitled :

An act to authorize a session of the Supreme Court to be holden in the city of Shreveport or other places, approved June 18th, 1863.

Also requesting the Speaker's name affixed to the following entitled Senate enrolled bills, to wit :

An act to organize the State Guard.

An act to change the term of holding court in the parish of Caddo, 10th Judicial District.

An act for the relief of John J. Wheat, Sheriff of the parish of St. Helena.

An act to authorize E. Hemenes to adopt Anna and Josephine Armstrong as his legitimate heirs.

An act relative to the payment of salaries of State officers.

BILLS OUT OF THEIR ORDER.

On motion the following named Representatives, leave being granted and the rules being suspended, the following entitled bills were taken up and severally disposed of as follows :

By Mr. Morehead.

An act to provide for the printing and distribution of the acts of the present session of the General Assembly. The amendments of the committee adopted. The bill underwent its several readings and was passed.

By Mr. Taylor.

Senate bill entitled :

An act to authorize John Moore, tutor, to remove certain slaves beyond the limits of the State, was concurred in.

By Mr. Lacy.

Senate bill entitled :

An act to authorize E. Hemenes to adopt Anna and Josephine Armstrong as his legitimate heirs, concurred in.

By Mr. Newsom.

An act for the relief of the Assessors of the different Parishes of the State east of the Mississippi river. Passed.

By Mr. Elam.

An act to amend an act entitled :

An act relative to Judicial proceedings against persons in the military or naval service, approved 21st, Dec., 1861. The House refused to concur in Senate's amendments. The same Representative asked for a committee of conference. Whereupon the Speaker pro tem. appointed Messrs. Mott, Snider, Griffin, Pressley and Foulhouse on said committee, and on motion, Mr. Elam was added to said committee.—The Senate being informed, agreed to the committee of conference, and appointed Messrs. Texada, Pond and Lott. Said joint committee of conference failing to agree, and the House being notified of such disa-

greement, Mr. Mott asked for a free conference, whereupon the Speaker appointed Messrs. Mott, Foulhouze, Griffin, Snider and Cotton. The Senate being informed appointed Messrs. Reeves, Pond and Lott on said committee.

By Mr. Robertson.

An act to establish a State Laboratory. The rule requiring the House to go into committee of the whole was suspended, and the bill was passed.

By Mr. Hawkins.

An act to repeal in part an act entitled :

An act to authorize the transfer of a part of the Free School Accumulating Fund and of the Levee and Drainage Fund to the General Fund as a loan, approved 20th June, 1863, and for the re-transfer of the same. Passed.

By Mr. Gilmore.

Senate bill entitled :

An act to change the term of holding court in the parish of Caddo, 10th Judicial District concurred in.

The same Representative had permission to withdraw House bill entitled :

An act for the relief of John Parnell and Elizabeth Parnell, his wife, of the parish of Caddo.

On motion of Mr. Mott it was

Resolved, That the resolution fixing the date of the adjournment sine die of this General Assembly be and is hereby rescinded, and that said adjournment be fixed for Saturday, 13th inst., at 12 o'clock M.

And the Senate was notified accordingly.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

A message was received from his Excellency, the Governor, through Major H. M. Farrot his private secretary, informing the House that he had approved and signed the following House bills :

An act relative to the machinery and buildings of the State Penitentiary at Clinton, Louisiana.

An act to suspend the collection of taxes.

An act to authorize the Governor to suspend the signing and issuing of treasury notes.

An act to amend an act entitled an act to authorize the Governor to purchase cotton and wool cards for the benefit of the families of soldiers, approved June 20th, 1863.

POINT OF ORDER.

On the amendment of Mr. Snider of Bossier to the general appropriation bill appropriating \$200,000 for the payment of losses of slaves, &c., the following point of order was raised by Mr. Kernan, to-wit :

Members interested in the bill whose provisions are under discussion, cannot vote on the same under the rule 15. The chair decrees the point of order not well taken, because the interest of members is general and not separate and distinct as provided in the 15th rule of the House.

And for the further reason that any interest members may have in the subject matter of the bill is already fixed by the law under which the property lost impresses, used and lost. And the bill under consideration had for its object to make the necessary appropriation to pay for the liability of the State already fixed by prior legislation.

J. B. ELAM,

Speaker House of Representatives.

Mr. Kernan appealed from the decision of the chair and called for the yeas and nays, which resulted as follows :

Yeas.—Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Anderson of Madison, Barry, Berry, Chapman, Convillon, Drake, Foulhouze, Griffin, Hargis, Head, Helm, Hodge, Jack, Jewell, Johnston of Iberville, Lacy, Mayo, Mott, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Morehead, Newsum, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley, Roubieu, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll, and Taylor of Union.—31 yeas.

Nays.—Messrs. Collins, Cotton, Gilmore, Gore, Hawkins, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Jamison and Kernan.—9 nays.

So the ruling of the chair was sustained.

On motion the House took a recess until 4 o'clock.

EVENING SESSION.

The House reassembled at 4 o'clock, the call of the roll dispensed with.

The Senate through W. F. Wagner, Esq., its Secretary, requested the concurrence of the House in the following Senate bills :

Joint resolutions relative to the illegal organization of a State Government by the public enemy.

An act to provide for the punishment of certain crimes and offences.

Mr. Head called up House bill No. 133 entitled

An act to repeal the act entitled an act to authorize the Governor of the State of Louisiana to press into the service of the State slaves and other property for the public defenses of the State during the present war, approved January 1st, 1863, which underwent its several readings and was passed.

SENATE BILLS.

The following Senate bills were taken up, and the rules being suspended, were disposed of severally as follows :

An act to prohibit the seizing, taking or removal of any property in the State contrary to law. Concurred in.

An act for the relief of John J. Wheat, Sheriff of the parish of St. Helena. Concurred in.

An act to authorize the Judges of the 5th and 6th judicial districts to hold special courts for the trial of criminal causes. Laid on the table subject to call.

An act to regulate the printing and distribution of the laws during the present war. Referred to the Committee on Printing.

An act to confirm certain claims to lands commonly called "Rio Hondo" claims.—Concurred in.

An act to regulate payments from the State Treasury. Concurred in.

An act to abolish the office of State Librarian. Concurred in.

An act to abolish the office of State Engineer. Concurred in.

An act to amend and re-enact joint resolution relative to the withdrawal from public sale or private entry or location all the public lands of this State, approved June 18th, 1863, for which Mr. Helm asked permission to introduce House bill No. 155 as a substitute, which substitute was laid on the table, and the original bill was referred to the committee on Lands and Levees.

An act to amend and re-enact an act entitled an act to suspend all existing prescriptions, approved June 10th, 1863. Postponed indefinitely.

An act providing for the printing and distribution of the journals of the Senate and House of Representatives, the rules requiring that the House go into Committee of the Whole being suspended, the bill was concurred in.

Joint Resolution relative to illegal acts of spoliation by officers of the Confederate States army. Concurred in.

An act to emancipate William H. Brummett, a minor. Concurred in.

An act to authorize the Governor to appoint a Collector to receive and receipt for taxes East of the Mississippi River. Concurred in.

An act relative to attachment in certain cases. Referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

An act to authorize the Governor to raise a company of mounted men east of the Mississippi River. Concurred in.

An act for the relief of J. C. Wingard.—Senate's amendments concurred in.

An act to authorize certain persons to attach themselves to any military company in the State service. Concurred in.

Joint Resolution authorizing the Governor to rent a building for certain State purposes. Laid on the table.

Joint Resolutions relative to the illegal organization of a State Government by the public enemy. Concurred in.

An act to provide for the punishment of certain crimes and offenses. Concurred in.

SECOND READINGS.

The joint resolution relative to increasing the pay of non-commissioned officers and privates in the service, on suspension of the rules was adopted.

An act to repeal an act entitled: "An act to prohibit the distillation of grain, sugar, molasses or cane juice into spirituous or other alcoholic liquors," approved June 20th, 1863, was taken up.

Mr. Mott moved to take up in lieu of said bill the substitute reported by the

committee on the Judiciary to House bill No 25

Pending which motion Mr Newsom moved that bill No. 8 be laid on the table and called for the yeas and nays which resulted as follows :

Yeas—Messrs. Anderson of Madison, Chapman, Dougherty, Gore, Hodge, Jack, Lacy, Mayo, Newsom, Pressley, Taylor of Union—11 yeas.

Nays—Messrs. Anderson, of St. Landry, Barry, Berry, Blanks, Cotton, Couvillion, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Griffin, Hargis, Hawkins, Head, Helm, Jamison, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Mott, Myers, Murrell, Morehead, Osborn, Perkins, Pitre, Ronbieu, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll. 28 nays.

So the motion to lay on the table was lost.

Mr. Mott's motion prevailing the substitute bill entitled: An act to license the distillation of alcoholic liquors was read and on motion to adopt the 1st section Mr. Newsom called for the yeas and nays which resulted as follows :

Yeas—Messrs. Anderson, of St. Landry, Barry, Berry, Blanks, Collins, Cotton, Couvillion, Foulhouze, Gore, Griffin, Hawkins, Head, Helm, Jamison, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Mott, Myers, Murrell, Morehead, Osborn, Pitre, Robertson, Snider of Bossier,—25 yeas.

Nays—Messrs. Anderson of Madison, Chapman, Drake, Hargis, Hodge, Jack, Lacy, Mayo, Newsom, Perkins, Pressley, Taylor of Carroll, and Taylor of Union.—14 nays.

So the section was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Capman the House adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, February 10th, 1864.

The House met at 9 o'clock.

Present—The Hon. J. B. Elam, Speaker, and

Messrs—Anderson of St. Landry, Anderson of Madison, Barry, Berry, Blanks, Cotton, Couvillion, Drake, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Gore, Griffin, Hawkins, Head, Hodge, Jack, Jamison, Jewell, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Lacy, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Morehead, Newsom, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley, Richardson, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll, Taylor of Union. 36 Representatives.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. Mr. Smith Post Chaplain, C. S. A.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

The Senate's bill entitled :

An act to provide for the punishment of certain crimes and offenses, was on motion of Mr. Jack, respectfully recalled from the Senate for the purpose of reconsideration.

The bill was amended on motion of Mr. Griffin, by inserting in the 4th line after the word 'war,' the words, 'with intention wil-

fully and maliciously to subvert the Confederate government or the government of this State, or to excite rebellion against the laws and authorities of the same."

On the final passage of the bill Mr. Blanks called for the yeas and nays which resulted as follows :

Yeas—Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Anderson of Madison, Barry, Couvillion, Dougherty, Drake, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Head, Helm, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Lacy, Myers, Newsom, Osborn, Peek, Perkins, Pitre, Richardson, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll. 22 yeas.

Nays—Messrs. Berry, Blanks, Collins, Gore, Griffin, Hawkins, Jack, Johnston of Iberville, Kernan, Mayo, McEnery, Morehead and Taylor of Union. 13 nays.

So the bill was concurred in.

Mr. Head moved that the vote by which the House yesterday refused to lay on the table the House bill No. 8, entitled :

"An act to repeal an act entitled an act to prohibit the distillation of grain, sugar, molasses or cane juice into spirituous or other alcoholic liquors," approved June 20th, 1863, be now reconsidered, and called for the yeas and nays on his motion, which resulted as follows :

Yeas—Messrs. Anderson of Madison, Chapman, Drake, Griffin, Hargis, Head, Hodge, Jack, Joffrion, Lacy, Mayo, McEnery, Newsom, Pressley, Richardson, Taylor of Carroll, Taylor of Union. 17 yeas.

Nays—Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Barry, Collins, Cotton, Couvillion, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Gore, Hawkins, Helm, Jewell, Johnston of Rapides, Johnston of Iberville, Myers, Murrell, Morehead, Osborn, Perkins, Pitre, Snider of Bossier.—21 nays.

So the House refused to reconsider.

Mr. Hargis moved that the vote by which the House yesterday postponed indefinitely the bill No. 146 entitled :

An act to amend and re-enact an act entitled : An act to suspend all existing prescriptions, approved 10th June, 1863, be now reconsidered.

Mr. Morehead moved that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and called for the yeas and nays on his motion which resulted as follows :

Yeas—Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Barry, Chapman, Collins, Cotton, Couvillion, Drake, Foulhouze, Gore, Griffin, Hawkins, Jack, Jamison, Jewell, Joffrion, Johnston of Iberville, Myers, Morehead, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley, Richardson, Robertson, Roubieu, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll. 27 yeas.

Nays—Messrs. Berry, Blanks, Hargis, Head, Helm, Lacy, Mayo, Murrell, Newsom, Osborn, Taylor of Union. 11 nays.

So the motion of Mr. Hargis was laid on the table.

On motion of Mr. Gilmore it was

Resolved, That the sum of one hundred

dollars be and the same is hereby allowed to each of the Enrolling clerks of the House, said amount to be paid out of the contingent expense fund of this House.

On motion of Mr. Anderson it was

Resolved, That the sum of one hundred dollars be and the same is hereby allowed to the Assistant Sergeant-at-arms of this House, said amount to be paid on his own warrant out of the contingent expenses of the House.

On motion of Mr. Mott, it was resolved.

That the chairman of the committee on Enrolled bills be allowed the sum of four dollars per day during this session in compensation of his services, payable out of the contingent funds of this House, on his own warrant.

On motion of Mr. Myers, the following resolution was adopted :

Resolution to increase the salaries of the Chief and Assistant clerks of the House of Representatives.

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana, that in as much as the State officers and clerks generally have had their salaries increased, that the two clerks of this House be allowed the sum of one thousand dollars each for house rent, payable out of the contingent fund of this House.

Mr. Jamison, on behalf of the committee on Banks and Banking, made the following report which was adopted :

REPORT.

The committee on Banks and Banking, beg leave to report that they have destroyed by fire, in the Auditor's office, the following cancelled notes, returned by the Free Banks of New Orleans, to-wit :

By the Union Bank of Louisiana. one package containing \$168,000. Ten packages containing \$252,000. \$420,600.

By the Mechanics' & Traders' Bank. One package containing \$206,960.

By the Southern Bank. Three packages containing \$141,785.

By the Crescent City Bank. Five packages containing \$44,000.

By the Bank of America. One package containing \$127,000.

By the Bank of New Orleans. One package containing \$220,780. Eight packages containing \$237,000.—\$457,780.

Total amounts of notes destroyed, \$1,398,125.

The notes put up by the Bank of America were in such miserable condition, that the committee had great trouble to count them.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

SAM'L. JAMISON,

Chairman.

Mr. Taylor or Carroll offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That two hundred dollars each be paid, out of the contingent fund of this House to the Rev. Mr. Mosely and Rev

Mr. Smith for services during the present session of the General Assembly.

Mr. Cotton moved to amend the same by inserting 'one hundred dollars,' in lieu of 'two hundred dollars,' and called for the yeas and nays which resulted as follows:

Yeas.—Messrs. Barry, Berry, Collins, Cotton, Couvillon, Dougherty, Gore, Griffin, Hawkins, Head, Hodge, Jack, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Lacy, Mayo, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Morehead, Osborn, Perkins, Pressley, Roubieu, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Union. 26 yeas.

Nays.—Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Anderson of Madison, Drake, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Hargis, Jamison, Johnston of Iberville, Newsom, Pitre, Taylor of Carroll. 11 nays.

So the amendment was adopted and the resolution as amended was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Joffrion it was

Resolved, That the sum of one hundred dollars be allowed to T. D. McCandless, Journal clerk of the House, for bringing up the Journal of the House after the adjournment, payable out of the contingent funds on the warrant of the clerk of the House, after the completion of the work.

On motion of the same Representative it was

Resolved, That the sum of one hundred dollars each be allowed to C. L. Mavor, H. Skolfield and P. A. Atkinson in full compensation for their services as Assistant Enrolling Clerks, payable on their own warrant out of the contingent fund.

Mr. Mott presented Joint Resolution to provide for the payment of the Contingent Expenses of the House as per accounts therein enumerated: Adopted.

Mr. Joffrion on behalf of the Committee on Enrollment reported as correctly enrolled House bills numbered 110, 74, 72, 150, 106, 99, 105, 109, 104, 130, 157, 172, 78, 154, 129, 21, 50 and 166.

Mr. Mott on behalf of the committee of Free Conference appointed on the disagreeing amendments to the House bill entitled:

An act to amend an act entitled "An act relative to judicial proceedings against persons in the military or naval service," approved 21st December, 1861,

Reported as follows:

That the Senate recedes from its amendment to the first section and the House agreeing to amend the Senate amendment to the 3d section by adding the word "sequestration" and the House agreeing to all the other Senate amendments.

The report was accepted and agreed to.

The Speaker presented the following report which was read:

REPORT OF THE SUPREME COURT OF LOUISIANA.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana, in General Assembly convened:

The undersigned, on behalf of the Su-

preme Court of the State, makes the following report in regard to the contingent fund placed at the disposal of said Court, viz: Balance on hand April 1st, 1863, \$1059 39 1863.

May 29—Paid I. W. Pickens, Sheriff of the Parish of Caddo, expenses incurred on trial of *Habeas Corpus* case, attendance, stationary, &c., \$ 25 50

Sept. 3—To T. H. Morris for stationary, &c., 119 25

Oct. 12—Eugene Lesere, Clerk of Supreme Court, 370 50

515 25

Balance January 30th,

1864, 544 14

\$1059 39 \$1059 39

The rent of the Clerk's offices at Monroe and Alexandria for the year 1863 are still unpaid.

The ordinary appropriation prior to the war to this fund was \$1500.

The present year there will be some additional expenses in providing blank books, stationary and fixtures for the Clerk's office at Shreveport. Should the Police Jury of the Parish of Caddo fail to place a room in the Court House at the disposal of the Supreme Court for a clerk's office, it may be necessary to rent one for that purpose as is still done at Monroe and Alexandria.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

E. T. MERRICK,
Chief Justice of the Supreme
Court of La.

A message was received from the Senate through Oscar Arroyo, Esq., its Assistant Secretary, informing the House that it had concurred in the resolution of the House fixing the day of adjournment with an amendment as follows:

Strike out in the 7 and 8th lines "Saturday the 13th" and insert instead "Thursday the 11th."

The Senate's amendment was concurred in.

BILLS OUT OF THEIR REGULAR ORDER.

On motion of the following named Representatives, the rules being suspended and have granted, the following entitled bills were taken up out of their regular order and severally disposed of as follows:

By Mr. Morehead:

An act for the relief of Tom Bynum, State Printer.

The rule requiring the House to go into Committee of the Whole was suspended and the bill was passed.

By Mr. Jack: (Senate bill.)

An act to provide for the punishment of certain crimes and offences.

On motion of Mr. Griffin was amended by inserting after the word "war," the words "with intention willfully and maliciously to subvert the Confederate Government or the Government of this State or to excite rebellion against the laws and authorities of the same."

Mr. Morehead moved that the bill and amendments be laid on the table and called for the yeas and nays which resulted as follows :

Yeas.—Messrs. Barry, Berry, Blanks, Griffin, Hargis, Hawkins, Johnston of Iberville, Mayo, Murrell, Morehead Taylor of Union, 11 yeas.

Nays.—Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Anderson of Madison, Chapman, Couvillon, Dougherty, Drake, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Head, Jack, Jewell, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Lacy, Mott, Myers, Newsom, Osborn, Peck, Pressley, Richardson, Snider of Bossier, and Taylor of Carroll—24 nays.

So the motion to lay on the table was lost and the bill as amended was concurred in.

The Senate's amendments to "An act to provide for the payment of the officers, members and contingent expenses of the General Assembly," were concurred in.

By Mr. Head :

Join Resolution to pay the contingent expense bills of the House as follows :

Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana, in General Assembly convened, That the following amounts be and the same are hereby appropriated to pay the contingent expenses of the Senate and House of Representatives at the First Session of the Seventh Legislature, the same to be paid out of the contingent fund of the General Assembly for the year 1864.

No. 1—Phelps & Co., as per voucher, three hundred and eight dollars \$308 00

No. 2—T. H. Morris, as per voucher, sixty-seven dollars. 67 00

No. 3—G. H. Hubbard, as per voucher, seventy-eight dollars. 78 00

No. 4—Caddo Gazette, as per voucher, six hundred and forty dollars. 640 00

No. 5—News, as per voucher, two thousand six hundred and sixteen 50-100 2616 50

No. 6—P. Smith, as per voucher, seventy-five dollars. 75 00

No. 7—P. Smith, as per voucher, two hundred and ninety dollars. 290 00

No. 8—Damlons, as per voucher, forty dollars. 40 00

No. 9—South Western, as per voucher, one hundred and fifty dollars. 150 00

No. 10—J. H. Peralta, as per voucher, seventy-one 66-100 dollars. 71 60

No. 11—T. H. Morris, six doz pen holders, eighteen dollars. 18 00

No. 12—Post Office, as per voucher, forty dollars. 40 00

No. 13—Col. Battle, for one bureau, fifty dollars. 50 00

No. 14—J. W. Mahle, as per voucher, thirty-five dollars. 35 00

No. 15—News, as per voucher, thirty dollars. 30 00

Joint Resolution to pay the contingent expense bills of the Senate were adopted.

The Senate's amendments to the bill No. 78, entitled

"Joint Resolution requesting our Senators and Representatives in Congress to use their influence upon the Confederate Government to send an officer or officers, &c., to pay claims, &c., against the Confederate Government," were concurred in.

By Mr. Jack.

An act to authorize the Governor to call into the service of the State free persons of color. Passed.

By Mr. Morehead,

An act to authorize the Governor to purchase of the Confederate government the tithe of corn and other produce for the use soldiers families. The rules were suspended, requiring the House to go into committee of the whole, and the substitute reported by the committee on Military affairs was adopted in lieu of the original bill.

Mr. Elam offered an amendment in the form of an additional section.

Mr. Morehead moved that the amendment be laid on the table, and called for the yeas and nays, which resulted as follows :

Yeas.—Messrs. Collins, Gore, Hodge, Jewell, Johnston of Iberville, Lacy, Murrell, Morehead, Richardson Taylor of Union, 10 yeas.

Nays.—Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Anderson of Madison, Berry, Blanks, Chapman, Couvillon, Drake, Foulhouze, Griffin, Head, Jack, Jamison, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Mayo, Myers, Newsom, Osborn, Peck, Pressley, Snider of Bossier, 24 nays.

So the additional section offered by Mr. Elam was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Snider this section was further amended.

Mr. Head moved to reconsider the vote by which the 5th section was adopted, and Mr. Elam moved to lay the motion to reconsider on the table, and called for the yeas and nays, which resulted as follows :

Yeas.—Messrs Anderson of St. Landry, Anderson of Madison, Barry, Berry, Blanks, Chapman, Foulhouze, Gore, Hawkins, Mayo, Jamison, Johnston of Rapides, Myers, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley, 16 yeas.

Nays.—Messrs Collins, Drake, Gilmore, Griffin, Head, Helm, Jewell, Joffrion, Johnston of Iberville, Kernan, Lacy, Mott, McEnery, Morehead, Newsom, Osborn, Snider of Bossier, 19 nays.

So the motion to reconsider prevailed.

Mr. Head moved to amend the 5th section by inserting the words 'or State,' after the word 'Confederate,' on which motion the yeas and nays were called and resulted as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Berry, Couvillion, Drake, Griffin, Hawkins, Head, Jewell, Joffrion, Johnston of Iberville, Mott, Lacy, Murrell, Morehead, Osborn, Newsom, Snider of Bossier, Snider of Tensas, Taylor of Carroll, Taylor of Union. 17 yeas.

Nays—Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Anderson of Madison, Barry, Berry, Chapman, Foulhouze, Elam, Jack, Johnston of Rapides, Kernan, Mayo, Myers, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley. 10 nays.

And the amendment was adopted.

The bill as amendment was passed.

On motion of Mr. Mott the House took a recess until half past four o' clock.

EVENING SESSION.

Upon re-assembling at six o' clock, the call of the roll was dispensed with.

Mr. Morehead moved that the clerk be instructed to enter on the journal of this day's session that the House could not meet at 4½ P. M., in consequence of certain parties having taken possession of the hall to make public speeches.

The motion was laid on the table.

The Senate bill entitled:

An act for the relief of Tom Bynum, State Printer, being concurred in by the Senate with an amendment, the bill was taken up, and the Senate's amendment concurred in.

The bill entitled:

An act for the relief of Sheriffs and State Tax collectors, was concurred in.

The bill entitled:

An act to provide for the election of a Town constable of the town of Opelousas, was on motion of Mr. Anderson of St. Landry, taken up and passed.

The bill entitled:

Joint resolution relative to requesting our congressmen to endeavor to have repealed certain exemption laws, was laid on the table subject to call.

The bill entitled:

An act to repeal the Militia bill, was postponed indefinitely.

The bill reported by the Judiciary committee as a substitute for House bill No. 24 entitled:

"An act to license the distillation of Alcoholic liquors," was resumed in its regular order.

Mr. Jack moved that the substitute be laid on the table, and called for the yeas and nays which resulted as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Chapman, Drake, Griffin, Jack, Lacy, Mayo, McEnery, Newsom, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll, Taylor of Union. 11 yeas.

Nays—Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Barry, Berry, Collins, Cotton, Couvillion,

Foulhouze, Gilmore, Hawkins, Helm, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Jamison, Kernan, Mott, Myers, Murrell, Morehead, Perkins and Pitre. 27 nays. Lost.

On motion of Mr. Griffin, the 2d section was amended by striking out the word 'to' in the fifth line and inserting the words 'said judge or justice of the peace shall,' and the section as amended was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Snider the 3d section was amended by striking out the word 'one' in the 7th line and inserting 'five,' and by adding at the end of the section the words 'for liquors distilled from any other articles than grain, and \$10,000 for license to distill liquor from grain.' The section as amended was adopted.

The 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th sections were successively adopted, and on the motion of Mr. Mott that the bill be engrossed, the yeas and nays were called for, which resulted as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Barry, Collins, Cotton, Couvillion Foulhouze, Gilmore, Gore, Hawkins, Helm, Jamison, Johnston of Rapides, Kernan, Myers, Murrell, Morehead, Perkins, Pitre, Richardson, 20 yeas.

Nays—Messrs. Berry, Chapman, Drake, Griffin, Head, Jack, Joffrion, Lacy, Mayo, McEnery, Newsom, Pressley, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll, Taylor of Union.—15 nays.

So the bill was ordered to be engrossed.

The Senate bill entitled:

An act to authorize the Treasurer of the State to issue change Treasury notes, underwent its several readings and was concurred in.

On motion of Mr. Kernan the House bill No. 88 entitled:

An act to authorize litigants in the Parishes East of the Mississippi river to take and file the affidavit required by the act entitled: An act relative to proceedings in courts of justice in this State, approved June 19th, 1853, was taken up and passed.

On motion of Mr. Snider of Bossier, the House bill No. 143, entitled:

An act to amend and re-enact the third section of an act entitled: An act to provide a revenue and the manner of collecting the same, approved March 15th, 1855, was taken up.

The 3d item, 1st section, was amended by inserting the words 'boarding schools excepted' at the end of the first line.

The 4th line was amended by inserting in the 3d line after the word "family" the word "three" in lieu of the word "one," striking out the words 'and fifty' in the same line, and inserting the words 'one hundred' in lieu of the word 'thirty' in the 4th line.

The 1st section as amended was adopted.

The second section was adopted.

The bill entitled :

An act for the relief of N. Scopini and Francis Lattier, was on motion of Mr. Griffin, laid on the table subject to call.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

The Governor, through Maj. H. M. Favrot, his private Secretary, informed the House that he had approved and signed the following entitled House bills :

An act for the relief of Ellen O. Miller, wife of C. W. Miller deceased.

An act for the relief of Elizabeth Flanagan, wife of Allen Flanagan deceased.

An act for the relief of the Assessors of the different Parishes of the State, East of the Mississippi river.

An act to provide for the confinement of persons convicted of crimes, punishable with hard labor and confinement.

An act to provide for the printing and distribution of the acts of the present session of the General Assembly.

An act for the relief of Wm. R. Bson, of the parish of Caddo.

An act to amend and re-enact an act entitled an act to authorize a session of the Supreme Court to be holden in the city of Shreveport or other places, approved June 18th, 1853.

An act granting to the Confederate government during the existing war the right to use for government purposes, timber on the public lands.

An act for the relief of wounded and disabled soldiers.

An act relative to the trial of persons accused of offences.

An act to establish a mining and manufacturing bureau for the State.

An act for the relief of Thos. J. Williams late Sheriff of the Parish of DeSoto.

Joint resolution relative to claims against the Confederate government.

An act authorizing the Governor to appoint a Supreme Judge for the second Judicial District.

An act to provide for the payment of the General Assembly.

An act establishing rules and articles for the government of the army and militia of the State of Louisiana.

The same gentleman returned to the House without the signature of the governor, the House bill entitled :

"An act for the relief of J. C. Wingard," accompanied with the following message :

EXECUTIVE OFFICE.

Shreveport, La., Feb. 10th, 1864.

To the Honorable the Speaker
of the House of Representatives.

SIR :—I have the honor to return to the House without my signature, "An act for the relief of J. C. Wingard," for the following reasons, to wit :

The passage of this act draws a distinction in favor of this claimant, against a large number of others of equal merit.—

Legislation on private claims for injuries sustained by the military authorities, should be deferred till the war is over. Thousands of our fellow-citizens have had their barns and store houses, their gins and cotton and corn destroyed by military necessity ; they do not expect to obtain redress till the war is ended. Hundreds have claims against the State of a pressing nature. Many poor men have furnished arms to the State and are yet unpaid. Shall we open the door to these claims now? I hope not. I therefore respectfully suggest that all claims of this kind against the State be deferred till peace is declared, and then let Commissioners be appointed with full power to adjust them in an equitable manner.

Very respectfully, your obt. serv't,

HENRY W. ALLEN,

Gov. of the State of Louisiana.

Whereupon Mr. Mott moved that the vote of the House be taken on the passage of said bill by the requisite constitutional majority.

On which motion the yeas and nays being taken resulted as follows :

Yeas—Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Anderson, of Madison, Chapman, Hawkins, Jack, Jewell, Johnston of Iberville, Kernan, Morehead. 9 yeas.

Nays—Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Barry, Berry, Blanks, Chapman, Couvillon, Foulhouze, Gilmore, Griffin, Head, Joffrion, Johnston of Rapides, Lacy, Mayo, Myers, Murrell, Mott, Newsom, Osborn, Peck, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll, and Taylor of Union.—26 nays.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.

The Senate through Oscar Arroyo, Esq., its assistant secretary, informed the House that the Senate had concurred in the following entitled House bills :

An act to authorize the Governor to call into the State service free persons of color.

An act to establish a State Laboratory.

An act to amend and re-enact the 4th, 7th, 8th, and 9th sections of an act providing for runaway slaves and establishing a general depot for the same, approved March 19th, 1857.

And that they had also concurred with an amendment in House bill No. 108 entitled :

An act for the relief of Tom Bynum, State Printer.

Also requesting the signature of the Speaker affixed to the hereinafter named Senate enrolled bills, to-wit :

An act to authorize the Governor to appoint a collector to receive and receipt for taxes East of the Mississippi river.

An act providing for the printing and distribution of the journals of the Senate and House of Representatives.

Joint resolutions relative to the illegal organization of a State government by the public enemy.

An act to authorize certain persons to attach themselves to any military company in the State service.

An act to regulate payments from the State Treasury.

An act to confirm certain claims to lands commonly called Rio Hondo claims.

An act to prohibit the seizing, taking or removal of any property in the State contrary to law.

Joint resolution relative to illegal acts of spoliation by officers of the Confederate States Army.

An act to emancipate William H. Brummitt, a minor.

An act to authorize the Governor to raise a company of mounted men East of the Mississippi river.

An act making appropriations for the general expenses of the State for the year ending the 31st day of March, 1865.

An act to provide for the punishment of certain crimes and offences.

An act prescribing an additional oath to be taken by Attornies at law in the State of Louisiana.

The same gentleman informed the House that the President of the Senate had affixed his signature to the following entitled House enrolled bills, to-wit :

An act to authorize the Governor to call into the State service free persons of color.

An act to amend an act entitled an act relative to judicial proceedings against persons in the military or naval service, approved 21st Dec., 1861.

Joint resolutions relative to claims against the Confederate government.

An act to provide for the confinement of persons convicted of crimes punishable with hard labor.

An act for the relief of the Assessors of the different Parishes of the State East of the Mississippi river.

An act for the relief of T. J. Williams, late Sheriff of the Parish of DeSoto.

An act for the relief of Ellen O. Miller, wife of G. W. Miller deceased.

An act to provide for the printing and distribution of the acts of the present session of the General Assembly.

An act for the relief of Elizabeth wife of Allen Flanagan deceased.

An act for the relief of J. C. Wingard.

An act relative to the trial of persons accused of offences.

An act to establish a State Laboratory.

An act to establish a mining and manufacturing Bureau for the State.

An act for the relief of Wm. Robson of the Parish of Caddo.

An act authorizing the Governor to appoint a Supreme Judge for the second judicial district.

An act Establishing rules and articles for the government of the army and militia of the State of Louisiana

An act to amend and re-enact the 4th,

7th, 8th, and 9th sections of an act providing for runaway slaves, and establishing a general depot for the same. Approved March 17th, 1857.

An act to provide for the payment of the members, officers and contingent expenses of the General Assembly.

The Senate through W F Wagner, Esq. its secretary, notified the House that the Senate had concurred in House bill No. 98 entitled :

An act to authorize the Governor of the State to purchase of the Confederate government or other parties of the tithe of corn and other produce for the use of soldiers families.

On motion of Mr Helm, the House adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

THURSDAY, February 11th, 1864.

The House met at 9 o'clock.

Present—The Hon. J. B. Elam, Speaker, in the chair.

The call of the roll was, on motion, dispensed with.

Prayer was offered by the Rev Mr. Mosely, of Shreveport.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

On motion of Mr Joffrion it was

Resolved, That the sum of four hundred and ninety-six dollars be paid to J F Barthelemy, a member of the House of Representatives from the Parish of Orleans ; the same being for his per diem pay and mileage at the last session of the General Assembly begun and held at Shreveport, May 4th, 1863, to be paid out of the contingent funds of the House on his own warrant.

Mr. Gilmore asked and obtained leave to introduce without previous notice the following entitled bill :

An act authorizing Jefferson J Guice, of the parish of DeSoto, to adopt the minors George W Guice and Martha M Jordan, of the parish of DeSoto.

The rules being suspended the same underwent its several readings and was passed.

Mr Jack presented the following Joint Resolutions :

RESOLUTIONS OF THANKS.

1st. Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened, That this Legislature, and through it the people of the State, do hereby most gratefully tender their thanks to the brave soldiers, both officers and privates, of the State of Louisiana for that endurance, valor and self-sacrificing devotion to the cause of their country which they have displayed in every campaign and on every battle-field.

2d, Resolved, &c, That this Legislature, and through it the people of this State, sincerely lamenting the loss of the

gallant dead, do hereby tender their cordial sympathies and support to the bereaved ones whom they have left among us.

3d. Resolved, That so long as the State of Louisiana has one dollar in her Treasury, she will assist, protect and support them.

4th. Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be transmitted by the Secretary of State to the commanding officers of the different Regiments and Battalions of Louisiana Troops with the request that they be communicated to their respective commands.

The said Joint Resolutions underwent their several readings and were adopted.

Mr Joffrion, on behalf of the committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled the following House bills, Nos. 108, 98, 174, 88 and 175.

Mr Joffrion asked and obtained leave to withdraw House bill No. 100.

Mr Newsom asked and obtained leave to withdraw House bill No. 90.

Mr Mott also asked and obtained leave to withdraw House bills Nos. 148 and 109.

Mr Mott, on behalf of the Finance committee, on account of the hour of final adjournment having arrived, reported without action on a memorial relative to the collection of taxes, a resolution relative to the amount of State currency, and House bill No. 145.

On motion of Mr Joffrion it was

Resolved. That the thanks of the House of Representatives be and the same are hereby tendered to the Hon J B Elam, Speaker of the House, for the able, urbane, courteous and impartial manner in which he has presided over the deliberations of this body.

The Speaker rose and said : (Hon E F Morehead, in the chair.)

MR. SPEAKER : I am profoundly impressed by the compliment paid me in the resolution just passed. The members of the House selected me as their presiding officer without opposition; without any special acquaintance with parliamentary rules. I have endeavored to familiarize myself with the order of business so as to enable the House to dispose of it with reasonable dispatch. And, above all, I have endeavored to hold the scales evenly and do equal and impartial justice between the members on this floor. I hope, gentlemen, that the next session of this General Assembly may meet under happier auspices; that the clouds that envelope our political horizon may be dispersed, and the blessings of peace, liberty and independence be secured.

The Senate through W F. Wagner, Esq., its Secretary, informed the House that the Senate had concurred in the following House bills :

An act to authorize litigants in the Par-

ishes east of the Mississippi River to take and file the affidavit required by the act entitled "An act relative to proceedings in Courts of Justice in this State," approved June 19th, 1863.

An act authorizing Jefferson J. Guice, of the Parish of DeSoto, to adopt the minors George W Guice and Martha M Jordan, of the parish of DeSoto, and

Resolutions of Thanks, &c.

The same gentleman requested the signature of the Speaker to Senate enrolled bill entitled :

An act to authorize the Treasurer of the State to issue change Treasury notes.

And announced that the President of the Senate had signed the following House enrolled bills :

An act to authorize litigants, &c., east of the Mississippi river to take and file affidavits, &c.

An act authorizing the Governor to arrange with the Confederate authorities or with other parties for the issuing of provisions, &c.

An act for the relief of Tom Bynum, State Printer.

An act authorizing Jefferson J. Guice, of the Parish of DeSoto, to adopt the minors George W. Guice and Martha M. Jordan, of the parish of DeSoto, and

Resolution of thanks to Louisiana soldiers.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

The House was informed by His Excellency, the Governor, through Maj H M Favrot, his private secretary, that he had approved and signed the following House bills :

An act to authorize litigants in the Parishes east of the Mississippi river to make and file the affidavit required by the act entitled "An act relative to proceedings in Courts of Justice in this State," approved June 19th, 1863.

Resolutions of thanks.

An act authorizing Jefferson J Guice to adopt the minors George W Guice and Martha M Jordan, of the Parish of DeSoto.

An act to authorize the Governor to call into the State service free persons of color.

An act to amend and re-enact the 4th, 7th, 8th, and 9th sections of an act providing for runaway slaves and establishing a General Depot for the same, approved March the 19th, 1857.

An act to amend an act entitled "An act relative to judicial proceedings against persons in the military or naval service," approved 21st December, A D, 1861.

An act to establish a State laboratory.

An act authorizing the Governor to arrange with the Confederate authorities for the issuing of provisions and other necessities to the families of persons in the military or naval service.

An act for the relief of Tom Bynum, State printer.

The Senate requested the concurrence of the House in the following Joint Resolution:

Resolved, That a Joint Committee of three members of the Senate and — members of the House of Representatives be appointed to wait on His Excellency, the Governor, to inform him that the Legislature is now ready to adjourn *sine die* and to inquire whether he has any further communications to make to the Legislature.

And informed the House that the Senate had appointed on said committee Senators Moore, Reeves and Lott.

The House concurring, filled the blank with the word "five."

Whereupon the Speaker appointed on said committee, Messrs. Mott, Jamison, Foulhouze, Snider of Bossier, and Head.

The committee, through Mr. Mott reported that they had performed the duty assigned to them and that the Governor had informed them that he had only two bills to examine for approval and signing.

The House being notified that said bills had been signed, and that the hour of 12 M. having arrived, on motion of Mr. Mott, the Clerk of the House was directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives was now ready to adjourn *sine die*.

That duty being performed, on motion of Mr. Morehead, the House adjourned *sine die*.

E. W. HALSEY,

Assistant Clerk of the House
of Representatives.

LOUISIANA LEGISLATURE.

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.

SEVENTH LEGISLATURE.

—:0:—

MONDAY, January 18th, 1864.

This being the third Monday of January, the day set apart by an Act of the Legislature, entitled "An act fixing the time of the annual session of the Legislature," approved June 12th, 1863, for the annual meeting of the General Assembly, the Senators assembled at the Court House of the Parish of Caddo, in the Town of Shreveport, at 12 o'clock, M., and were called to order by Mr. John Moore, of St. Martin, who called Mr. Thomas H. Weightman, of Ascension, to the Chair.

On a call of the roll the following Senators answered to their names, to-wit:

Mr. Hiram R. Lott representing the District composed of the Parishes of Carroll and Franklin.

Mr. James W McDonald representing the District composed of the Parish of Claiborne.

Mr. John Moore representing the District composed of the Parishes of St. Martin and Vermillion.

Mr. L Vincent Reeves representing the District composed of the Parishes of Tensas, Madison and Concordia.

Mr. William H. Rogers representing the District composed of the Parishes of Catahoula, Caldwell and Winn.

Mr. James C. Weaks representing the District composed of the Parishes of Morehouse and Ouachita.

Mr. Thomas H. Weightman representing the District composed of the Parishes of Ascension, Assumption and Terrebonne.

On motion by Mr. Moore, the oath of office was administered to Messrs. Lott, McDonald, Moore, Reeves, Rogers and Weaks, Senators elect from the above Senatorial Districts and they took their seats as such.

On motion by Mr. Moore, the Senate adjourned until to-morrow at 12 o'clock, M.

TUESDAY, January 19th, 1864.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

Present—Mr. Thomas H. Weightman in the chair,

Messrs. Abney, Butler, Clark, Lott, McDonald, Moore, Reeves, Rogers, Texada and Weaks. 11 Senators.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

On motion by Mr. Moore, the oath of office was administered by the Chairman to Mr. A. A. Abney, Senator elect from the District composed of the Parishes of Bossier and Bienville, and to Mr. Samuel Clark, Senator from the District composed of the Parishes of DeSoto, Caddo, Natchitoches and Sabine.

On motion by Mr. Abney, the oath required by the Act of the State Legislature entitled "An act prescribing an additional oath, to be taken by the State, District, Parish and Municipal officers," approved June 18, 1863, was administered by Mr. Moore, Senator from St. Martin, to Messrs. Butler of Natchitoches, Texada of Rapides and Weightman of Ascension.

On motion by Mr. Moore, ordered that a committee of three members be appointed by the Chair in order to inquire who are elected Senators, and whether there is a quorum present, and that the Committee should as far as practicable, be composed of Members of the Senate holding over.

Whereupon the Chair appointed Messrs. Texada, Butler and Abney, on said committee.

On motion by Mr. Clark, the Senate adjourned until to-morrow at 12 o'clock, M.

WEDNESDAY, January 20th, 1864.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

Present—Mr. Thomas H. Weightman in the chair.

Messrs. Abney, Butler, Clark, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Moore, Reeves, Rogers, Texada and Weaks. 12 Senators.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

On motion by Mr. Moore, the oath re-

quired by the Act of the State Legislature entitled "An act prescribing an additional oath, to be taken by the State, District, Parish and Municipal officers," approved June 6th. 1863, was administered by the Chairman to A M Gray, Senator from the Parishes of Avoyelles, West Feliciane and Pointe Coupee.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

On motion by Mr. Texada, the Senate proceeded to the election of a President for the time being, and

He nominated Mr John Moore of St Martin, for that office.

On a call of the roll the following was the result of the vote, to wit :

Messrs. Abney, Butler, Clark, Lott, McDonald, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Weightman and Weaks.

Mr Moore voted for Mr T H Weightman 11 Senators voted for Mr Moore.

Mr. Moore having obtained the majority of the votes cast, was declared duly elected President for the time being of the Senate.

Whereupon he was qualified by taking the oath of office, which was administered to him by the Chairman, and he took the chair.

The Senate proceeded to the election of its Secretary.

Mr Weightman nominated Mr William F Wagner.

On a call of the roll the following was the result of the vote, to-wit :

Mr. Moore, President pro tem.—Abney, Butler, Clark, Gray, Lott, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Weaks and Weightman.

12 Senators voted for Mr. Wagner, who having obtained the unanimous vote of the Senators present, was declared duly elected Secretary of the Senate for the term of two years.

He was qualified by taking the oath of office, which was administered to him by the President pro tem.

The Senate proceeded to the election of its Assistant Secretary.

Mr. Butler nominated Oscar Arroyo.

On a call of the roll the following was the result of the vote, to wit :

Mr. Moore, President pro tem.—Abney, Butler, Clark, Gray, Lott McDonald, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Weaks and Weightman.

12 Senators voted for Mr. Arroyo.

Who, having obtained the unanimous vote of the Senators present, was declared duly elected Assistant Secretary of the Senate for the term of two years.

He was qualified by taking the oath of office, which was administered to him by the President pro tem.

The Senate proceeded to the election of its Sergeant at Arms.

Mr. Butler nominated Mr. D E Grove.

On a call of the roll the following was the result of the vote, to wit :

Mr. Moore, President pro tem.—Abney, Butler, Clark, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Weaks and Weightman.

12 Senators voted for Grove.

Who, having received the unanimous vote of the Senators present, was declared duly elected Sergeant at Arms of the Senate for the term of two years and

He was qualified by taking the oath of office, which was administered to him by the President pro tem.

On motion of Mr Texada

Mr Sidney Kerley was unanimously elected Page of the Senate.

On motion of Mr. Weaks, the Secretary was directed to inform the House of Representatives of this organization of the Senate, and that it was ready to proceed to business.

Mr Texada, on behalf of the select committee; appointed on yesterday in order to inquire who are elected Senators, and whether there is a quorum present, stated that since the adjournment over, Mr Gray, of Avoyelles, had arrived, and that there was no doubt that there was a quorum present, and therefore beg leave to be discharged from the further consideration of the subject, which was granted.

Mr. Weaks submitted the following resolution which was considered by unanimous consent and agreed to :

Resolved, That the Clergy of Shreveport be requested to open the session of the Senate with prayer, every morning.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE.

By a message from the House, through E. W. Halsey, its Assistant Clerk, the Senate was informed that the House of Representatives had effected its organization by the election of Mr. J B Elam of DeSoto, as Speaker, A Isaacson, as Clerk, W Halsey, as its Assistant Clerk, and that it was ready to proceed to business.

He also requested the concurrence of the Senate in a resolution fixing this day, at 2 o'clock, p m, for counting the votes cast at the last general election for Governor, Lieut Governor and other State officers.

RESOLUTION.

Mr Clark submitted the following joint resolution which underwent its several readings, and it was adopted.

Resolved, That a joint committee of two members on the part of the Senate, and — members of the House of Representatives, be appointed to wait on his Excellency, the Governor, and inform him that a quorum of the General Assembly had met, and that the Legislature was ready to receive any communications he might be pleased to make.

The President appointed Messrs. Clark and Texada on the committee on the part of the Senate.

On motion by Mr. Clark, the Secretary

was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

On motion by Mr. Lott, the rules adopted for the government of the Senate at the session, were adopted as the standing rules of the Senate.

On motion by Mr. Weightman, the 7th, 11th and 16th items of the 33d rules, were dispensed with for the present session.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE.

By a message from the House of Representatives, through Mr. Isaacson, its Clerk, the Senate was informed that the House had concurred in the Senate's resolution for the appointment of a joint committee of both Houses, to wait on his Excellency, the Governor.

That the Speaker had appointed Messrs. Anderson, of St. Landry, Anderson, of Madison, and Jack the committee on the part of the House.

The House Committee having met the Senate committee, proceeded to the performance of their duty.

Subsequently Mr. Clark on behalf of the committee, had waited on his excellency, T. O. Moore, Governor of the State, and that he informed the committee that he would soon communicate in writing to the Legislature.

Mr. J. Hamilton Hardy, special messenger of the Governor, appeared at the bar of the Senate, and delivered on the part of his Excellency the Governor, the following message.

Gentlemen of the Senate and of the House of Representatives.

I am enabled to state the aggregate receipts and expenditures of the State during the past year, the details of which will be found in the Reports of the Auditor and Treasurer. The receipts from all sources amount to six million seven hundred and six thousand seven hundred and seventy-four dollars and five cents. The expenditures have been two million six hundred and eighty-nine thousand one hundred and forty-two dollars and seventy-one cents.

The expenses of the State Government, both military and civil, have been mainly defrayed by the issue of Treasury Notes. In consequence of the Acts suspending the compulsory collection of taxes, no part of the ordinary revenue of the State has been exigible for her expenditures. These taxes, which must ultimately be paid, are accumulating each year. Meanwhile the issues of Treasury notes by the State assists in inflating the currency, and consequently in depreciating it. This state of things must be remedied or we shall experience disastrous results.

The surest remedy is to extirpate the disease by destroying its cause. The period of suspension by the last Act expires with this month. I recommend that it be not renewed, and that the issue of Treas-

ury Note cease as soon as practicable.—The people were never better able to pay their taxes than now. In truth, they will appear comparatively light, so rapidly do men's minds become accustomed to the exaggerated prices which now prevail.—Every dollar that is paid into the Treasury doubly lightens the burden. It spares the State the necessity of issuing one, and thus reacts on prices by lessening the volume of the currency. The rapid issue of notes by the State and municipal corporations has assisted in the inflation attendant upon the excessive issues of the Confederate Treasury. We can materially modify the pernicious results of that excess by abandoning the system of continued issues.

If this recommendation be adopted, it will be necessary to resort to the sale of Bonds to supply the deficiency of revenue, occasioned by our inability to collect taxes in that portion of the State which is occupied by the enemy. The Bonds of this State ought to command a high premium. Notwithstanding the increased expenditures of the State during the war, the increase of bonded debt is comparatively insignificant. The only issues of Bonds made, are those provided by your Acts, passed at the first session of the twenty-seventh General Assembly, January 13th and 23d, 1852. Of the seven millions authorized by the latter Act, two millions were obtained by the issue of Treasury Notes and five millions by the sale of eight per cent. Bonds. Two hundred and twenty-six thousand dollars of these Bonds remain unsold. Of the one million of six per cents. authorized by the first Act, seventy-four thousand dollars are unsold.—When it is remembered that two and a half millions of these sums were paid to the Confederate Government for the War Tax of this State, it will be admitted that the expenditures proper of the State have been kept within reasonable bounds.

I may add in passing, that this is the only issue of Treasury Notes, prior to those authorized by your Acts passed at Opelousas. As I was desirous of urging upon the General Assembly the policy of non-issue hereafter, I requested the Treasurer not to pay out any notes under the twenty million Act, except when such payment was compulsory. It is estimated that only one million and a quarter of that series of notes have been emitted.

The volume of the currency may be still further diminished by funding the State Treasury Notes now in circulation. It will be seen from the statement just made, that bonds to the amount of three and a quarter million of dollars would be required for that purpose. The funding to be effective must be compulsory, and the rate of interest of this class of bonds might properly be made lower than that usually given by the State. No question occupies so large a

share of public attention now as that of our currency. Experience has taught us that the laws of finance cannot be violated without detriment both to public and private interests. We are passing through the same ordeal that taxed the patriotism and fortitude of our revolutionary sires. Superabundant issues of paper money have produced inflation of prices; injured the public credit, and stimulated misgivings of our future ability to discharge our debt. Let us correct the evil before its proportions attain a magnitude that will defy remedy.

The acts passed at the extra session held at Opelousas have not been printed, except in newspaper slips, and are therefore not susceptible of being bound. In order that they shall be accessible to the public, they must be printed in the usual book form.—They are few in number and may very well be included in the same binding with the acts of the last session. I suggest that the Journals of the present session and all other matter except the laws, be printed in the English language only. This will save much useless expense and useful paper.

Soon after your last adjournment, I appointed Messrs. W. J. McCulloch and Oscar Arroyo, Commissioners under the Act appropriating three hundred thousand dollars for the relief of our fellow-citizens who had been expelled from New Orleans.—They proceeded to Mobile and dispensed such portion of this generous bounty as was demanded by the necessities of the refugees. I submit herewith their report, from which it will appear that the appropriation was not exhausted. After their return, I received urgent representations from some of our fellow citizens sojourning in Mobile, that new cases had been presented for relief. I therefore appointed Judge Victor Burthe, Commissioner, to apply the residue to the relief of those for whose benefit the act was passed.

The report of the Commissioner of Public Lands will be submitted to you. It is fortunate that the services of so efficient an officer were secured in the organization of this important bureau. His entire administration has been characterized by marked fidelity and intelligence, the full effects of which will be more conspicuous when the return of peace shall enlarge his field of operations.

By an act of your last session, the Judges of the Supreme Court were required to hold a term at Shreveport for the trial of criminal and other enumerated causes. I have been informed there are many appealed cases, especially of the trials of slaves throughout the State, in which the appeal was taken before the passage of your act, in consequence of which, probably, the Clerks have not felt that your enactment, requiring the return to be made to the Shreveport term, was obligatory upon them. These, and all criminal causes in similar

condition, should be disposed of. When the parties accused are in prison, means of removal are not always at the command of the Sheriffs, and the example of the enemy at the Penitentiary exhibits too much sympathy with felons, to leave to him the option of a jail delivery. I therefore recommend that in all criminal causes that have been, or that shall be tried pending the war, the appeals shall be returnable to the Judges at Shreveport.

And here I feel impelled to call your attention to a remarkable anomaly in the law of this State. In no slaveholding State, except Louisiana, is a negro competent to testify against a white person. In New England, and the other extreme radical States of the North, where fanatical abolitionism has obtained ascendancy, the negro is considered not inferior to the white, and his testimony is equally admissible. The same legal rule prevails in Louisiana, provided the negro be free. The enemy, who now occupies a portion of our territory, finds the rule already existing in our recognized law, and marvels at the fatuity that has retained it. In all other slaveholding States, white persons are alone competent to testify for or against white persons, and all negroes and mulattoes, bond and free, can testify only where that class of persons are parties. Why should a different rule prevail here? Is there anything in the political conduct of the anti-slavery States, that recommends to us the adoption of their legislation upon a subject directly connected with the institution they are now seeking to destroy? Are we content to be ranged on such a subject by the side of Massachusetts, and find ourselves separated from our co-sovereigns of the Confederacy, and indeed, from these slave States that have adhered to the Union? Have we failed to appreciate the importance of a rule, the universality of whose prevalence in all slaveholding communities, attests its adaptation to that condition of society? Let us hasten to conform to the spirit of our institutions. Let us cease to imitate those who, in their efforts to amalgamate the privileges of two races, have with sagacious cunning removed gradually the distinctive legal marks that operate as barriers—first by admission to the witness stand, next to the jury, then to the ballot box and the bed. “No negro or mulatto, bond or free, shall be a competent witness in any case, except in cases in which all the parties are negroes or mulattoes, or in which the State is plaintiff, and a negro or mulatto, or negroes or mulattoes, are defendants.” This is the statutory declaration of a neighboring State. The same broad distinction between the white and the black races is made by the legislation of every State of the Confederacy except our own.

The same necessity and the same pro-

priety exists for remitting all persons of the black race, to the same tribunal for the trial of their offences. If a slave commit an infraction of the criminal law, we have wisely provided a special tribunal where a speedy trial may be had, unincumbered with the forms or the delays that may be interposed in the ordinary and regular routine of courts. But a tender sensitiveness, or a strange infatuation refused or neglected to subject the free negro to the same tribunal. What is the consequence? At this moment free negroes, who committed offences denounced by the law, when the presence of the enemy afforded them license cannot be tried, because courts do not sit and the intervention of a grand jury is necessary to accuse them of crime.—Some of the States have not provided any special tribunal for the trial of slaves.—Others have, and have uniformly enacted that “free negroes and mulattoes shall be tried as slaves are directed to be tried, before two Justices of the Peace and five slave-holders,” as is the law in another neighboring State, the number of Justices and slaveholders varying only in different jurisdictions.

It is of great importance that the Courts should hold their regular sessions. In the present condition of the country, men's minds become accustomed to look to the military power as the arbiter of disputes if the regular channels of justice are obstructed by neglect to open the courts. I submit whether some change may not be made in the jury law, so that certain classes of cases may be tried without the liability to delay or postponement which now exists. So large a proportion of the population is now engaged in public service, that difficulty may be experienced in obtaining juries, for the trial of criminal causes, without an amendment of the law repealing all exemptions.

The impressment of private property by Confederate officers, has occasioned great annoyance and greater injury to the citizens of this State. The patriotism of our people—their desire to place no hindrance to the Confederate Government in the execution of all measures necessary for the efficient prosecution of the war, has in the majority of cases caused them to stifle their complaints, and consequently the misconduct of the subordinate officers, who have made these impressments has not come to the knowledge of their superiors. Neither the General commanding the Department, nor District, will tolerate any abuse of this tremendous power, which necessity has (in the opinion of Congress,) required to be lodged in the hands of military authorities, and if the General should have otherwise interpreted their obligations, it is my right, and that of every Executive of a State to interpose the shield of her protection over her citizens. Every case of illegal impress-

ment that I have had occasion to bring to the notice of these Generals has been promptly redressed and I invite citizens who have been injured by such unauthorized conduct of Confederate officers to report the particulars, properly authenticated.

One reason of the latitude allowed or exercised by impressing officers, is, that the provisions of the law of Congress are not known or understood. That law does not impose the schedule prices of the commissioners upon those who have raised, grown or produced, the property sought to be impressed, or upon those holding the same for their own use or consumption, or when it is held or has been purchased not for sale or speculation. In these cases, it is the duty of the impressing officer to cause the value of the property to be ascertained by two disinterested citizens, one of whom is to be selected by the officer, and the other by the owner or agent of the property, and in case of their disagreement, these two shall choose an umpire, whose decision shall be final, and this applies to impressed property, whether the absolute ownership or the temporary use thereof only, is required. Even in those cases where the schedule prices are obligatory, viz: when the property impressed is in the hands of any person *other* than those above mentioned, if the owner and the officer differ as to the quality of the articles impressed, thereby making it fall within a higher or lower price named in the schedule, the same process is permissible, of each selecting a disinterested citizen to determine the quality of the article, who may select an umpire as in the other class of cases.

I doubt if a single instance has occurred in this State, of reference to local appraisers to fix the value of impressed property. The schedule prices have been assumed by the officers as a limitation, alike obligatory upon the producer and the speculator, whereas, the law intended that an entirely different mode of valuation should be pursued in the two cases. The power or right to impress is besides confined to a particular class of officers, and is to be exercised by them only in particular emergencies.—Whenever the exigencies of any army in the field are such as to make impressments of forage, articles of subsistence, or other property, absolutely necessary, then such impressment may be made by the officers, whose duty it is to furnish such forage, articles of subsistence, or other property, for such army. The only other legal impressment that can be made, is that authorized by the 4th sec. of the act, viz: whenever the Secretary of War shall be of opinion that it is necessary to take private property for public use, by reason of the impracticability of procuring the same by purchase, so as to accumulate necessary supplies for the army, or the good of the service in any locality, he may, by general order through

the proper subordinate officers, authorize such property to be taken for the public use, the compensation due the owner for the same to be determined, and the value found as provided for in the first and second sections, which contain the provisions I first adverted to above. The schedule prices do not apply to such impressments.

The act further declares that there shall not be impressed under any circumstances the property necessary for the support of the owner and his family, and to carry on his ordinary agricultural and mechanical business.

Congress thus endeavored to take reasonable precaution for the protection of property. Although the exercise of this harsh power has been hedged in with these restrictions, experience has proved them to be futile in regulating the action of the officers. The law is a most unwise one, and should be repealed. Its effect has been to oppress the citizens, and to afford idle and inefficient officers a means of obtaining without labor or trouble, that which could and ought to have been provided by their timely exertion and forethought.

While, however, the law continues on the statute book, it is necessary to guard against abuses perpetrated under cover of its provisions. Whenever the rights secured to the property owner by its terms are disregarded, it requires the trial of the offender before the military courts of the corps to which he belongs, on complaint made by the owner. If it is an officer who has violated these provisions of the law, he must, on conviction be cashiered, and placed in the ranks. It is proper and necessary to denounce these illegal impressments with additional penalties, and to subject the officers or privates guilty of them to criminal prosecutions in the State tribunals. In determining the punishment to be inflicted, it will be necessary to remember that fines would but provoke the derision of the culprits, and ordinary imprisonment might be acceptable as a punishment.

You need not be deterred from legislative action, by apprehensions that such a measure would interfere with the proper and efficient military administration of the General who commands in our State. The views I have expressed are in entire accord with his own, and the legislation recommended will, in his opinion, assist him in preventing demoralization of troops and protecting the people.

Some instances have occurred of parties harboring or concealing conscripts and deserters, and others of giving information to jayhawkers of the situation of our troops. There is no State law for the punishment of these miscreants, nor indeed do these acts fall within the terms of any defined offence. It is very desirable that such con-

duct should be defined as a crime, and that the mode of trial should be as summary as it can be made, consistent with existing constitutional rights.

The invasion of the interior by the enemy last spring, produced no serious results except the loss of property. The hope, with which he is accustomed to delude the slaves, proved here, as elsewhere, too powerful for that credulous class to entirely resist. Notwithstanding, however, the inducements offered to them to abandon their masters and their homes, the number that yielded was comparatively small.—The larger portion of those who trusted to his promises soon had occasion to repent their confidence. The women and children were abandoned to starvation and a cruel death. When our forces recaptured Brashers with its garrison, over two thousand of these helpless creatures were found there, and as many more at other points, in the most abject destitution. Their masters were notified to reclaim them, but disease superinduced by want of food and by exposure, had thinned their numbers, and nearly all those who had survived died from its effects on their return journey.

Nor was this brutal neglect the only circumstance that demonstrated the hollowness of their professions for the slaves. A systematic robbery was committed by the Federal soldiers, of their money. In numerous instances the slave had hoarded his earnings in specie. The soldier usually approached him with a benevolent inquiry, touching that interesting fact, and was promptly informed of the extent of his possessions. He was then told that the inquirer was charged with the custody of these treasures, all of which would be sacredly preserved, and re-delivered when they reached their destination. If this assurance failed to establish confidence, as was sometimes the case, he was forcibly despoiled of his money. Where the savings of the slave consisted of Confederate Treasury Notes, he was told that they were worthless, but that by delivering them, he should receive gold instead. The women who characteristically bedecked themselves in their jewelry to hail the day of their deliverance, were violently deprived of it. When they had thus obtained possession of all the negroes had, they abandoned the women and children to hunger and suffering. It is well to recite these disgusting details, not for your information, but that the world may know the diabolical perfidy of the people, who have not even the merit of sincerity, in their asseverations of concern for the welfare of that class, whose champions they assume to be.

Their treatment of the slaves has been so uniform in every locality, where the enemy has made a lodgment, that its adoption must have been preconcerted, or is the effect of indifference. The slave, seduced

or torn from the comforts of his home, where provision for nursing in sickness was always made, has been treated by the enemy like the beasts of burthen. Massed together in pens and huts, with insufficient clothing and food, exposed to hardship and weather, a rapid and sure disease fastened itself upon them. The frightful mortality among them has been viewed by their pseudo friends with indifference, or secret delight. The living have been as effectually separated as the dead. One of their habitual themes in the denunciation of our system is the sundering of family ties. No such scene was ever witnessed in a slave mart of the South, as have been seen on the banks of our rivers during this war.

The enemy on some occasions having families hanging on his march, has resorted to deception and fraud, or force as was the humor of the moment, to effect his purposes. Finding these families clinging together, when he reached the water courses, he enticed them on boats, and then driving the men back on shore, conveyed their wives and children to the Government plantations, as they denominate the abandoned estates of our citizens, while the men were marched to the depots of their black troops. In no instance have the families been permitted to remain together, nor will they see each other until their masters, after peace, shall have opportunity to ascertain their places of exile. Left to themselves, they would never find each other, so effectually have their deliverers concealed their different destinations.

The number of slaves killed by neglect and brutality of the enemy, will equal the loss of life of whites in both armies. When in future years the statistics of this war shall be accurately known, the civilized nations of the world will stand aghast at this unparalleled loss of human life. They will then appreciate the misery which has been wrought by the obstinate pursuit of a visionary scheme of emancipation, and they will, then discover that what is now termed the moral sense of the world on the question of slavery, has become vitiated by an ill-placed faith in purely theoretical teachings. The purposes of this war will then appear in their naked deformity, and the tribunal of enlightened Europe will finally award justice to the Confederate cause.

For the present the opinion of other nations does not concern us. The visions of foreign intervention that have floated before our expectant eyes are dispelled.—We must fight this battle alone. We must acquire our independence with our own strong arms, by endurance, and through suffering, or we shall lose everything that enables manhood and endears existence.

If anything were needed to nerve us for such a struggle, it may be found in the con-

templation of the fact, that permanent independence or prolonged vassalage are the only alternatives left us. It is not the recognition of a merely nominal supremacy that the enemy seeks, much less the re-establishment of a constitutional bond.—Whatever device was at first adopted by him to arouse the passions, and cement the energies of the Northern people, no doubt now exists of his real purpose. The mask has been removed. States are to be obliterated. A centralized despotism is to crush their liberties in its chilly grasp.—Their inhabitants are to suffer the penalties of unsuccessful rebellion—loss of property, of political, social and personal privileges. If any one mourns the loss of property in consequence of this war, let him remember that if it ends otherwise than in our independence, he will never have any again. The planter will never again till the ground, except as a serf—the merchant will never more reckon his gains—the professional man will find his name stricken from the roll of competition—and the artisan will be as effectually prohibited from his industrial pursuit as if he were benumbed by palsy. A claim to participate in government will be mocked at. Who would have the temerity to ask for that, when he was denied even the right to labor, or saw its fruits grasped by his task-master! Once bend your neck to that yoke, with all the degrading and vexatious tyrannies of its vulgar domination, and you will then realize what is the terrible import of subjugation, relieved only by the desperate and lurid hope of revolt.

To avert that no sacrifice is too great. The men, the means, all the resources of every State should be cheerfully contributed to the common cause. Every one must render his service, either in augmenting the military strength of the Confederacy, or in developing by industrial energy those material resources, which are as indispensable for the efficiency of the army as are trained soldiers. Congress should repeal the law authorizing substitutes to be furnished by conscripts, and thus add to the numbers of the army. It has already provided for the formation of companies of minute men for local defence, to be composed only of those not within conscript age. Portion of those, and such volunteer organizations as have been or may hereafter be made under the State law, can render efficient service as garrisons to posts, and for such other detailed service as may be required, which will relieve the commander from the necessity of separating parts of a regiment, each from the other, and thus weakening his organization. I urge upon the people of this State the necessity and feasibility of strengthening our local defences by the formation of these corps.

I have not judged it expedient or neces-

nary to call out the militia, but delay or laggardness in augmenting the local force, either by companies of minute men, or by a more rapid increase of volunteering under the State law, may at any time impose upon the Executive the necessity of resorting to this measure.

I have continued the same policy in the disposition of the State troops that I adopted in the beginning, and which for a brief period only was interrupted while the Opelousas militia act was in force. That policy was to employ all the energies of the State Government, in rendering assistance to the Confederate Generals, in the prosecution of their military plans, and to apply all our resources to the support, equipment and maintenance of their armies. In a word, to incorporate the State forces as rapidly as they were organized in the Confederate army, thus placing the whole military strength under one head, and giving to it unity and compactness. I did adopt this policy because of my deficiency in military experience, although of that fact no one was so sensible as myself, but because of the manifest absurdity of attempting to accomplish military results with two armies under commanders entirely independent of each other, operating in the same field against a disciplined enemy. To whatever General was entrusted the defence of our State, I have given my hearty and unflagging support—in the supply of arms, of munitions of war, of commissariat and quartermaster stores—by loans from the military fund entrusted to me, by the prosecution of military works at the sole expense of the State—not hindered by a fear of extravagance, where the object manifestly justified it, but at the same time keeping a watchful eye upon expenditures. Thus the resources of the State and of the Confederate Governments are concentrated upon the one object of augmenting our military strength.

And it is only when this military strength is thus concentrated and exerted, that great results can be legitimately expected. The people must awake to the consciousness, that spasmodic efforts made on the spur of imminent danger, will not suffice for the defense of any country. Trained troops, compacted by discipline, and hardened by probation for a soldier's duty, must be our reliance, if we would have success.

Organizations of minute men and State volunteers will form a reserve corps, which can be made efficient for the purposes I have before stated, and for local assistance in resisting raids. Sufficient numbers of these must be obtained voluntarily, or legislation may enforce the rendition of these services for the defense of the country.

This defense includes and involves the raising of food, the manufacture of clothing, and the development of the resources

needed for war purposes, and the maintenance of women and children. regard must be had for these essentials, and provision made not to interfere with them to a serious extent, by the exemption acts which have to be enacted from time to time, and by detail. The exemption or detail of a sufficient number of artisans, and of men needful to superintend the raising of crops, will ensure to the army its necessary clothing and subsistence, and their places in the ranks may very well be filled by the youthful and healthy traders who throng every village in the Confederacy.

The retention by the States of their officers for the administration of State affairs, rests upon a different footing. In the exemptions specified by the State law in force at the time the Exemption Act of Congress was passed, the Assessors were inadvertently omitted, and they were accordingly claimed to be conscripts. I had no difficulty in obtaining a detail of them, but a claim by the Confederate Government of the right to the compulsory service of any State officer, is wholly inadmissible in theory, and very dangerous in practice. If the Confederate Government can conscribe one officer of the State, it may conscribe another. If its Assessor is liable to the military service of the Confederate Government, so is its Governor, its Legislators, its Judges. Concede the principle, and the State Government may at any moment be subverted by the central authority, and the whole machinery of its administration be destroyed. It is because we claimed that the States were sovereign, and could not be impeded in the exercise of their independent functions, that our Confederacy was formed. This war is in vindication of that principle, and we must guard against its infringement, if we would avoid the renewal at some future day of that absorption of power, which caused the destruction of the old government. No State should permit a claim by the Confederate Government to the services of its officers in any department, to pass without a denial of its rightfulness. No State can permit the enforcement of that claim without danger of self destruction. It is important to avoid establishing precedents for the exercise of dangerous powers.

As our lines have contracted, large numbers of slaves have been drawn into the interior, creating a superabundance of that kind of labor in localities far removed from the probable theatre of the enemy's operations. We have been too backward hitherto in using our slaves in the various employments wherein their auxiliary services might be useful for military purposes. The enemy early in the war supposed that we would employ the slaves as teamsters and laborers. He foresaw the advantage to be derived from such use of

that population, trained and disciplined already to these duties. That policy has been adopted only in the eastern army, and there to a limited extent. It is necessary to adopt it now throughout the Confederacy. In the late message of Mr. Lincoln, boast is made that he has one hundred thousand of our slaves now in military service, of whom one-half have arms in their hands. White men will fight our battles, and their numbers will be greatly augmented by relieving them from the performance of duty as teamsters, laborers, and the like, and placing slaves in their stead. The male slaves should be removed from exposed districts. Their capture by the enemy is a double loss, since they add to his numbers, and diminish our resource for this auxiliary service: The abstraction of a large portion of the slave labor from those parts of the country where crops can be cultivated, would interfere with the production of food, and it is therefore to the slaves who have been driven from their homes by the enemy that the military authorities must chiefly look for a supply for military labor.

Large numbers of our citizens have been forced to abandon their homes as the enemy advanced, or to remain in his lines, subjected to his brutal tyranny. They have preferred the former and more manly course, and have sought, with their slaves, a refuge in the neighboring State of Texas. Many have brought, or sent back painful accounts of their reception. Between two States, geographically contiguous, and closely united by ties of common interest and reciprocal dependence, there should exist the most enlarged comity. The citizens of Texas and Louisiana have every inducement to cultivate mutual respect, confidence and amity. The Texan may boast of honorable service rendered in the defence of Louisiana, as the Louisianian is justly proud of the conspicuous part he has performed in the defence of Virginia, and of every State east of the Mississippi. While each may vie with the other in recounting his deeds of valor, there should not be wanting the exercise of another knightly quality—the duty of hospitality.

I despatched an agent to Richmond early last year to obtain the arms and munitions imported by me from Europe, which had come into the possession of the Confederate Government. An inconsiderable part of them only was obtained by him, and these were forwarded. When they reached Jackson, Miss., they were immediately forwarded to Vicksburg by order of Gen. Pemberton, since he considered it a safer place to store ordnance than Jackson. In the report of the agent, it is stated that on his arrival at that place in May, he found that Gen. Pemberton had ordered the rifles stopped and sent to Vicksburg for safety, and that he afterward made personal ap-

plication to that officer for their delivery, which he refused, and they remained there and were surrendered to the enemy.

The accompanying report of the Adjutant General, and the documents appended, will give you more detailed information of the number of arms purchased, and of all other matters pertaining to the military administration of the State. Efforts have been made to ascertain the exact number of troops furnished by Louisiana to the Confederate army. Official figures are not yet obtained, but an approximative estimate of the corps organized independently, coupled with the muster rolls of the corps organized through the State officers, will exhibit the number to be about fifty-two thousand, in which are not included the numerous local volunteer corps that were formed in New Orleans and elsewhere, although they were mustered into Confederate service.—Of these local volunteers there have been ten thousand nine hundred and nineteen. The largest vote ever polled in the State was in the fall of 1860, and numbered fifty thousand five hundred and eleven.

The attempt of the enemy since your adjournment, to repeat the invasion of last spring, was foiled. He has retired his fruitless expedition with the loss of nearly two thousand prisoners, and now occupies but little more of our territory than he did a year ago. To the troops who confronted with cheerful courage his superior numbers; to the officers who led them with alacrity, or awaited his movements without rashness; and to the commanders to whose vigilance, activity and generalship, the State owes her deliverance, our thanks are due.

The reduction of the strongholds, Vicksburg and Port Hudson, necessarily changed military movements in the South-west.—Their loss was serious to the whole country, and especially to Louisiana. The fall of the latter fortress was an inevitable consequence of the surrender of the former.

The country waits with curious interest to learn what justificatory explanation is to be made of the campaign which terminated in that surrender. The defender of Charleston has improvised defences as new exigencies arose. New fortifications have appeared where the enemy expected to find ruins. It was not too much to expect from the high rank of the commander at Vicksburg a display of skillful generalship, similarly commensurate with his elevated rank.

Great as have been these losses to us, they are not comparable to that sustained by the loss of East Tennessee. The enemy finds himself thus encouraged to persevere, and has obtained an important point as a base for his next campaign. A people struggling for life, liberty and property, can look danger in the face without blanching. By properly estimating, they will

learn to surmount it. The suffering of prolonged warfare is as nothing compared with the inappreciable misery of that tyranny which our enemy is vainly hoping to fasten upon us. My confidence in the result is as firm as it was before the first reverse to our arms. Our separation from the North has been long ago pronounced by the voice of Europe to be irrevocable. Despite the malign influence of political complications, the fact of the impossibility of re-union has been acknowledged. We shall not disappoint the just expectations of the world, founded upon their witness of the spirit of our people, and the prowess of our soldiers.

And while we are working out that grand result, let us not forget the principle for which we are fighting. The sovereignty of the States is the great, the only bulwark for the liberty of the citizen. As that principle is weakened or ignored, the absorption of power progresses, and a centralized government inevitably follows, which only lacks occasion for its full development into tyranny. The experience of nations teaches that written constitutions are insufficient safeguards for the liberties of a people, when the people themselves have become ready to fall beneath the heel of a despot. The most conspicuous illustration of that truth is now being furnished by the people from whom we have separated. Warned by their example we must beware of any impulse to derogate from a principle which, so long as it was maintained, secured the blessings of liberty and good government to a great and prosperous nation.

In closing this, my last annual message to the General Assembly, I desire to express through it to my fellow-citizens of the State, my acknowledgment of the forbearance they have extended to any errors of my administration. Called to the Executive chair against my own wishes, I found myself suddenly surrounded by new and formidable perils. Plunged into a war of startling magnitude, in which our State was expected to form no inconsiderable part. I deplored that her helm was entrusted to my untutored hand. How weightily I was oppressed with that responsibility, no one can ever fully know. How I have discharged it, posterity will judge, perhaps with less harshness than those of the present day. For myself, I can with sincerity say, that nothing could have sustained me under it, but the conscious rectitude of my intentions, and unabated zeal in my country's cause.

Entering now the retirement I have long coveted, I invoke the blessing of Providence upon our struggle. Passing through the sharp ordeal of war and suffering, may we learn to value the blessings of independence, which at no distant day will be se-

cured to Louisiana, and the States with which she has confederated.

THO. O. MOORE.

On motion of Mr. Butler—

Ordered that one thousand copies of the above Message be printed for the use of the Senate.

On motion by Mr. Texada, the rules were suspended, and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the House resolution inviting the Senate to meet the House in joint session, this day, at 2 o'clock, p. m. for the purpose of counting the votes cast at the last general election for Governor, Lieutenant Governor and other State officers, which resolution underwent its several readings, it was concurred in, and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

On a further motion by the same Senator, the Senate withdrew to the Hall of the House of Representatives.

JOINT SESSION.

Mr. John Moore, President pro tem of the Senate, in the Chair—

Messrs. Abney, Butler, Clark, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Weeks, and Weightman. 12 Senators.

Joseph P. Elam. Speaker in the chair—
Messrs. Anderson of Madison, Anderson of St. Landry, Berry, Blanks, Chapman, Cotton, Couvillon, Dougherty, Drake, Feulhonze, Gilmore, Griffin, Hawkins, Head, Hodge, Jack, Joffrion, Johnston, Johnson, Lacy, Mayo, Mott, McCranie, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, Morehead, Osborn, Peck, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley, Robertson, Snider of Bossier, Taylor of Carroll and Taylor of Union. 37 Representatives.

RECAPITULATION.

12 Senators.

47 Representatives.

49 Members of the General Assembly

The President pro tem of the Senate appointed on its part as tellers, Messrs. Lott and Weightman.

And the Speaker appointed on the part of the House as tellers, Messrs. Anderson of St. Landry, Chapman and Mott.

The joint tellers proceeded to count the votes cast at the last general election for State officers, which is as follows, viz:

PARISHES.	For Governor.					For Lt. Govr.					For Sec'y of State.					For Atty General.					Aud. Pub. Acc.					Sup. Pub. Ed.				
	Allen.	Stafford.	Polk.	McDonald.	Hodge, Sandidge.	Pearce.	Rayburn, Barry, Bowers, Ray.	Hardy.	Estes.	Zim.	Eastin.	R. Ray. Herrford.	Goode. Defreese. T. J. Semmes. Muse. L. D. Simms. Moise. Zim.	Peralta; Defreese. Hunter. Robertson.	Defreese. W. H. N. M- gruder. P. A. Walker. D. Avery.															
Avoyelles, - - -	385	23	3			407		186	188	220			405	404	405	405														
Bienville, - - -	351	64				247	113	129	223	5			370	370	369	377														
Bossier, - - -	233	67				312	1	190	306	10			306	310	308	307														
Caddo, - - -	535	141				656		218	437	5			652	665	637	666														
Calcasieu, - - -	162					159		139	12	9			158	151	158	157														
Caldwell, - - -	149	28		84		142	118	127	4	9			156	254	253	258														
Carroll, - - -	174	8				192		104	23	50			193	193	193	192														
Catahoula, - - -	209	16	2	139		246		127	19	79	8		226	241	241	237														
Claborne, - - -	576	146				409	32	537	173				705	707	698	696														
Concordia, - - -	78																													
DeSoto, - - -	506	11				505		119	354	2			506	505	503	506														
East Feliciana, -																														
Franklin, - - -	185	65		1		187	63	70	155	3			238	237	238	243														
Iberville, - - -	20					20		18					20	19	19	20														
Jackson, - - -	270	60				258	4	162	40	6			261	260	242	255														
Livingston, - - -	225			8		229		206					70	110	102	78														
Madison, - - -	20					25		19					1	1	25	27														
Morehouse, - - -	281	9				290		245	9	1	36		291	293	291	294														
Natchitoches, - -	560	23	1			534	13	416	53				569	558	560	580														
Ouachita, - - -	218	7				209		2	9	183			211	209	208	215														
Poime Coupee, -	33					32		32					32	32	32	22														
Rapides, - - -	273	131				351		321	7	28			367	374	373	375														
Sabine, - - -	335					355		273	73				352	352	353	353														
St. Helena, - - -	515					245		140					145	492	149	344														
St. Landry, - - -	80	4				74		58	13	2			73	74	73	73														
St. Tammany, - -																														
Tensas, - - -	112					113		29		19			51	60	52	50														
Union, - - -	372					367		294	31				362	364	367	362														
Vermilion, - - -	97					27				27			17	28	27															
West Feliciana, -	299					166		159					167	170	166	158														
Winn, - - -	272	4				163	6	234	10				242	253	253	250														

Mr. Lott of the Senate, on behalf the joint tellers of both Houses, reported that the following was the recapitulation of the votes of the several Parishes of the State to-wit:

FOR GOVERNOR.

Henry W. Allen received,	7,402
Leroy F. Stafford,	872
Leonidas Polk,	26
J. W. McDonald,	260
B. L. Hodge,	21
John M. Sandidge,	3

Majority of Henry W. Allen, 6,321

FOR LIEUT. GOVERNOR.

Benjamin W. Pearce received,	7,119
Hodge Rayburn,	169
Edward Barry,	181
Sam Powers,	30
John Ray,	241

Majority of Benj. W. Pearce, 6,498

FOR SECRETARY OF STATE.

Pliny D. Hardy received,	4,444
Dr. M. Estes,	1,680
Lewis Zim,	542
E. R. Eastin,	316
R. Ray,	3
Dr. F. M. Herrford,	11

Majority of Pliny D. Hardy, 1,892

FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL.

Flavillus S. Goode received,	7,170
B. L. Defreese,	1
L. D. Simms,	1
J. H. Muse,	2
T. J. Semmes,	69
M. W. Moise,	3
Lewis Zimm,	7

Majority of F. S. Goode, 7,143

FOR AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.

Hypolite Peralta received,	7,709
B. L. Defreese	1
R. A. Hunter,	4
E. W. Robertson,	1

Majority of Hypolite Peralta, 7,703

FOR STATE TREASURY.

B. L. Defreese received,	7,283
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FOR SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC EDUCATION

W. H. N. Magruder received,	7,440
P. A. Walker,	25
D. D. Avery,	1

Majority of W. H. N. Magruder, 7,414

On motion by the same Senator, the above was adopted as the action of the tellers on the part of the Senate.

On motion by Mr. Anderson of St. Landry, of the House, the above was also adopted as the action of the tellers on the part of the House.

Henry W. Allen, having obtained the

majority of the votes cast was proclaimed by the President pro tem. of the Senate duly elected Governor of the State of Louisiana for the term of four years from the fourth Monday of January instant.

Benjamin W. Pearce, having obtained the majority of votes cast, was proclaimed by the President pro tem. of the Senate duly elected Lieutenant-Governor of the State of Louisiana for the term of four years from the fourth Monday of January instant.

Pliny D. Hardy, having obtained the majority of the votes cast, was proclaimed by the President pro tem. of the Senate duly elected Secretary of State for the term of four years from the fourth Monday of January instant.

Flavillus S. Goode, having obtained the majority of the votes cast, was proclaimed by the President pro tem. of the Senate duly elected Attorney General for the term of four years from the fourth Monday of January instant.

Pyopolite Peralta, having obtained the majority of votes cast, was proclaimed by the President pro tem. of the Senate duly elected Auditor of Public Accounts for the term of two years from the fourth Monday of January instant.

B. L. Defreese, having obtained the majority of the votes cast, was proclaimed by the President pro tem. of the Senate duly elected State Treasurer for the term of two years from the fourth Monday of January instant.

W. H. N. Magruder, having obtained the majority of the votes cast, was proclaimed by the President pro tem. of the Senate duly elected State Superintendent of Public Education for the term of two years from the fourth Monday of January instant.

Mr. Robertson of the House, by unanimous consent submitted the following resolution which was adopted:

Resolved by the Senate, (the House concurring), That a joint committee of two members of this Senate and three members of the House of Representatives be appointed to make such arrangements as will be necessary for the inauguration of Gen. Henry W. Allen, Governor elect of the State of Louisiana.

Whereupon the President pro tem appointed on the part of the Senate Messrs. Clark and Reeves.

And the Speaker appointed on the part of the House Messrs. Robertson, Snyder of Bossier and Gilmore.

On motion of Mr. Abney, the Senate withdrew to the hall of their sittings.

On reassembling in the Senate chamber, the Senate was called to order by John Moore, President pro tem.

When on motion by Mr. Butler, the Senate adjourned until to-morrow at 10 o'clock.

A. M.

THURSDAY, January 21st, 1864.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

Present, Mr. John Moore, President pro tem. of the Senate in the chair.

Messrs. Abney, Butler, Clark, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Wall, Weeks and Weightman. 14 Senators.

The journals of yesterday were read and approved.

Mr. Benjamin R. Gantt, Senator from the District composed of the Parishes of St. Landry, Lafayette, Calcasieu, and Mr. J P Wall, Senator from the District composed of the Parishes of St. Helena, Livingston, St. Tammany and Washington, took the oath of office, which was administered by the President.

NOTICE OF BILL.

Mr. Clark gave notice of his intention to ask leave to introduce at some future day a bill to be entitled "An act to punish Confederate officers and others, for impressing private property contrary to law.

STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE.

The President announced to the Senate, that, after consultation with the Hon. Benjamin W. Pearce, Lient. Governor elect, he had appointed the following standing committees to-wit:

1. On Elections.—Messrs. Gantt, Fuller, Butler, Sanders and Barrow.
2. On Claims.—Messrs. Lott, McDonald, Abney, Sanders and Rogers.

3. On Unfinished Business.—Messrs. Gray, Coco, Wall, Weeks and Rogers.

4. On Enrolled Bills.—Messrs. Weightman, Coco, Lott, Dardenne, Abney, McDonald and Butler.

5. On Auditing and supervising the expenses of the Senate.—Messrs. Clark, Weightman and Fuller.

6. On Public Education.—Messrs. Sanders, Taylor, Dardenne, Fuller and Wall.

7. On the Judiciary.—Messrs. Reeves, Pond, Gantt, Texada, Barrow and Weeks.

8. On Confederate Relations.—Messrs. Barrow, Pond, Reeves, Lott and Texada.

9. On the Militia.—Messrs. Butler, Clark, Pond, Weeks and McDonald.

10. On Finance.—Mr. Texada, Lott, McDonald, Taylor, Abney, Weightman and Reeves.

11. On Amendment to the Constitution. Messrs. Oswalt, Dardenne and Gantt.

12. On Banks and Bank Banking.—Messrs. Pond, Oswalt, Rogers, Gray, Coco, Barrow and Clark.

On motion by Mr. Lott, ordered by the Senate, that Mr. John Moore, be appointed as Chairman of the Committee on the judiciary.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATION.

The President submitted to the Senate a Communication from the Auditor of Public Accounts, transmitting the following list of all persons who are defaulters to the State on amount of public moneys, to-wit:

List of Defaulting State Tax Collectors.

PARISHES.	YEARS.	NAMES OF DEFAULTERS.	AMOUNT TAXES.	AMOUNT LICENCES.
Assumption,	1830	F Blanchard	754.00	
Avoyelles,	1841	Wm Edwards	2007.85	
do	1842	do	7152.75	
Bossier,	1848	J M Hooper	3228.87	
Catahoula,	1834	J L Stokes	394.46	
do	1835	do	727.59	
do	1859	D M Pritchard,	2350.64	1215
Carroll,	1835	D G Clary	1394.19	
do	1848	E K Travis	5887.89	
Claiborne,	1850	Allen Harris	745.25	
do	1851	do	994.26	
Caddo,	1837	A B Sterrett	292.31	
do	1838	do	2314.60	
do	1839	do	1719.67	
Caldwell	1840	Bowen Hill	397.62	
do	1853	F J Mandeville	1001.75	
DeSoto,	1848	H H Womack	1166.01	
East Feliciana,	1840	John C Walker	7367.64	
do	1859	John W Hays	2726.80	
do	1854	A J Law	13605.23	
Franklin,	1858	Wade Hampton	3229.47	
do	1854	do	5024.18	305
do	1857	L W Cathey	2572.70	
Livingston,	1836	H J Bostwick	665.91	
do	1842	Wm L Breed	1089.03	
do	1856	Simpson Kemp	1608.44	1375
do	1859	Adam Lobell	435.64	91

List of Defaulting State Tax Collectors.—Continued.

PARISHES.	YEARS.	NAMES OF DEFAULTERS.	AMOUNT TAXES.	AMOUNT LICENSES
Morehouse,	1843	A Livingston	588.31	
do	1844	do	761.03	
do	1846	▲ J Bell	1188.93	
do	1847	A B Winfree	1573.37	
do	1848	O B Carr	1331.30	
do	1859	A J Bobs	7957.17	905
Madison,	1845	G W Parkington	1049.25	
do	1846	do	3104.68	
do	1857	F M Dawson	21,746.80	1700
Natchitoches	1836	B F Champman	1213.47	
do	1838	D S Burnett	2338.94	
do	1839	J A DeRussy	5658.34	
do	1858	Francois Vienne	981.52	
Orleans (Right Bank)	1842	L Bernondy	1742.31	
do do	1846	do	43.00	
Orleans 4th Rep't Dist.	1847	Wm K Stiles	21,235.29	6062.50
do 4th " "	1855	Richard McDowell	21674.57	5430
do 6th " "	1850	J A Bonneral	4499.06	
do 9th " "	1847	F Scheixnayder	3828.67	938.83
Plaquemine,	1845	F DeWint	3666.72	
Pointe Coupee	1844	H DeCoux	1139.06	
do	1845	do	8170.70	
do	1846	do	12,224.05	
Rapides,	1839	A B Cheney	6618.62	
do	1840	J Madison Wells	12,678.67	
St. Bernard,	1854	Andre Morales	6129.70	1695
St. Helena	1844	H Kemp	528.83	
do	1856	J D Kemp	6642.55	1625
do	1857	Robert F Hodges	555.39	1700
Sabine,	1849	K L McDemon	2185.63	
St. Landry,	1838	L Andrews	8821.62	
do	1846	Harrison Rogers	84384.78	
do	1849	do	10553.35	
do	1850	do	4240.03	
do	1851	Baptiste David	5989.38	
do	1852	do	6360.63	
do	1853	do	4953.97	
St. Mary	1839	R B Roster	9747.60	
St. Tammany,	1838	S Smith	503.22	
do	1856	Lewis L Morgan	5149.70	
Terrebonne,	1853	John H Field	1986.43	1340
Ouachita,	1838	T C Scarborough	1687.89	
do	1845	W H Coutts	1170.64	
do	1849	W H Dinkgrave	4590.66	
do	1850	do	4638.56	
Union,	1859	A M Calloway	1019.45	
Washington,	1836	W Brumfield	719.94	
do	1838	J E Erwin	1050.13	
do	1840	L Bankston	355.97	
do	1844	W H Morris	1393.59	
Vermillion,	1843	J M Miles	248.84	
do	1845	N Perry	497.63	
do	1846	W J Bernard	1,003.63	
do	1847	do	1434.63	
do	1850	Elv's LeBlanc	2607.67	
do	1851	Ambroaise Lacour	757.84	
Total Amount			\$318,707.66	\$25,586.33

AUDITOR'S OFFICE,
SHERBURN, LA., 21st January, 1864.

H. PERALTA,
State Auditor.

On motion by Mr. Clark, the above communication was referred to the committee on Finance.

BILLS INTRODUCED WITHOUT NOTICE REFERRED.

The hereinafter named Senators, without previous notice, and with a suspension of the rules first granted, asked and obtained leave to introduce the following entitled bills, which underwent their first and second readings by their respective titles, and were referred to the committee on the Judiciary, viz :

Mr. Butler.

An act to change the time of holding Court in the Tenth Judicial District.

Mr. Weightman.

An act to protect the people against corrupt and secret influence in matters of legislation.

An act to enforce the attendance of witnesses on the summons of either House of the General Assembly and to compel them to discover testimony.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE.

By a message from the House, through Mr. Isaacson, its Clerk, the concurrence of the Senate was requested in a Bill, entitled "An act to provide for the payment of Members, Officers and contingent expenses of the General Assembly.

On motion by Mr. Weightman, the rules were suspended, this Bill was taken up. It underwent its several readings, and on its final passage the yeas and nays were ordered to be taken under the rules, which resulted as follows: to-wit :

Yeas—Messrs. Abney, Butler, Clark, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Wall, Weaks and Weightman—13 Senators.

Nays—None.

Consequently the bill was concurred in, and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

On motion by Mr. Texada, the Senate adjourned until to-morrow at 10 o'clock, A. M.

FRIDAY, January 22d, 1864.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment Present—

Mr John Moore, President pro tem of the Senate in the Chair.

Messrs. Abney, Butler, Coco, Clark, Gray Gantt, Lott, McDonald, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Wall, Weaks and Weightman.

15 Senators.

The proceedings were opened with prayers offered by the Rev. Geo. Tucker.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

On motion of Mr. Butler, the oath of office was administered by the President pro tem. to Mr A. D. Coco, Senator elect from the District composed of the Parishes of Avoyelles, Pointe Coupee, and West Feliciana.

RESOLUTIONS.

Mr Weightman submitted the following resolution which was considered by unanimous consent, and agreed to.

Resolved, That so much of the Governor's message as relates to the currency, to Taxes and to the expenses of the State government, be referred to the committee on Finance ; that so much as relates to disbursements made by the committee appointed under Act No 24 of 1863, be referred to a special committee of three, to be appointed by the President of the Senate ; that so much as relates to printing the laws enacted at Opelousas, be referred to the committee on Auditing and supervising the expenses of the Senate ; that so much as relates to the criminal laws, to the testimony of free persons of color, to the returns of appeals to the Supreme court and to the preservation of the State government, be referred to the committee on the Judiciary ; that so much as relates to the impressment of private property by Confederate officers, be referred to the committee on Confederate relations ; that so much as relates to harboring conscripts and deserters, to the invasion and defence of the State, and to the purchase of arms, be referred to the committee on the Militia.

Whereupon the President pro tem. appointed Messrs Weightman, Coco and Rogers, the select committee.

Mr. Weaks submitted the following resolution.

Resolved, That the committee on Finance be empowered to contract with some of the Shreveport papers for the publication of the Journals of the Senate.

On motion by Mr Weightman, this resolution was ordered to lie over.

Mr Clark submitted the following resolution, which was considered by unanimous consent and agreed to.

Resolved, That the committee on Public education be instructed to enquire into the expediency of abolishing the office of Superintendent of Public Education.

Mr. Weightman submitted the following resolution which was ordered to lie over.

Resolved, That the committee on Auditing and supervising the expenses of the Senate be instructed to have copies of the Constitution of the Confederate States printed in pamphlet form for the use of the Senate.

NOTICE OF A BILL.

Mr McDonald gave notice of his intention to ask leave to introduce a Bill to be entitled " An act to amend and re-enact an Act suspending all existing prescriptions," approved June 10th, 1863.

BILLS INTRODUCED WITHOUT NOTICE AND REFERRED.

The hereinafter named Senators, without previous notice and with a suspension of the rules first granted, asked and obtained leave to introduce the following entitled

Bills, which underwent their first and second readings by their respective titles, and they were respectively disposed of as set forth below, to-wit

Mr Weightman

An act concerning printing for the Legislative and Executive Department of the State of Louisiana, which was referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

Mr Wall

An act for the relief of T. B. Thompson, which was referred to the committee on Claims.

Mr Abney

An act to punish persons for harboring deserters, which was referred to the committee on the Militia.

Mr Weeks

An act to authorize Recorders to administer oaths; which was referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

Mr Butler

An act appropriating \$500,000 for the payment of property lost in the public service, which was referred to the committee on Finance.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS

The President pro tem. laid before the Senate a communication from the Auditor of Public Accounts, transmitting a report of the operations of that Department from the 1st of April, up to the 31st day of December, 1863.

On motion by Mr. Lott, the reading of the same was dispensed with, and it was ordered to be referred to the committee on Finance.

The President pro tem. also laid before the Senate a communication from the Commissioner of Public Lands, transmitting a report of the operations of that department.

On motion by Mr Gantt, the reading of the same was dispensed with, and it was ordered to be referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

JOINT RESOLUTION INTRODUCED WITHOUT NOTICE AND PASSED.

Mr McDonald, without previous notice and with a suspension of the rules first granted, asked and obtained leave to introduce the following joint resolution:

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana, in General Assembly convened, That a joint committee of three members of the Senate, and members of the House of Representatives, be appointed to examine the books, accounts, vouchers, and other official documents in the offices of the Treasurer and Auditor of Public Accounts and report without delay to the General Assembly.

Which underwent several readings and was adopted.

And the President pro tem. appointed on the committee, Messrs McDonald, Wall and Weeks, on the part of the Senate.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE.

Mr Isaacson, Clerk of the House of Representatives, requested the concurrence of the Senate in the following joint resolution:

Joint Resolution relative to waiting on the Governor in relation to the purchase of cotton and wool cards and the construction of two iron clads.

And that the Speaker had appointed on the committee Messrs Taylor of Carroll, Blanks and Berry on the part of the House.

JOINT RESOLUTION RELATIVE TO IRON FOUNDRIES.

And that the Speaker had appointed on the committee Messrs Head, Murrell, Mayo, Peck and Pitre, on the part of the House.

And joint resolutions relative to a joint committee waiting on the Commander of the Trans-Mississippi Department.

And that the Speaker had appointed on the committee Messrs Foulhouze, Presley, Cotton, Berry, Johnston of Iberville, McEnery and Blanks on the part of the House.

REPORT FROM A STANDING COMMITTEE.

Mr. Lott, from the committee on Claims to whom was referred Senate Bill, entitled "An act for the relief of T. B. Thompson," submitted an adverse report.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

House Messages—First Readings.

Joint Resolution relative to waiting on the Governor in relation to the purchase of Cotton and Wool cards and the construction of two iron clads.

Which underwent its first reading and was ordered to a second to-morrow.

JOINT RESOLUTION RELATIVE TO IRON FOUNDRIES.

On motion of Mr Abney, the rules were suspended.

It underwent its first and second readings, the blank in the same was filled with the word "three," it underwent its third reading and was concurred in.

And the President pro tem. appointed on the committee Messrs Abney, Clark and McDonald on the part of the Senate.

On motion of Mr Reeves, the Senate adjourned until to-morrow at 11 o'clock, A. M.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 1864.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment. Present, the Hon. Henry M. Hyams, Lieut. Governor and President of the Senate in the Chair.

Messrs. Abney, Butler, Coco, Clark, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Moore, Reeves, Rogers, Taxada, Wall, Weeks and Weightman.

15 Senators.

The Journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Mr. Weightman, moved that the President appoint the committee on Public Works, which motion was ordered to lie over till Tuesday week.

RESOLUTION.

Mr. Weaks submitted the following resolution which was considered by unanimous consent and agreed to.

Resolved, That each member of the Senate be furnished with a copy of the several newspapers published in the city of Shreveport during its session.

MESSAGE TO THE HOUSE.

The Secretary informed the House of Representatives that the Senate had concurred in the House joint resolution relative to "Iron Foundries," and that the President pro tem. had appointed Messrs. Abney, Clark and McDonald, the committee on the part of the Senate.

And he requested the concurrence of the House in Senate's joint resolution for the appointment of a joint committee to examine the books and accounts of the Treasurer and Auditor of Public Accounts.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE.

By a message from the House, through Mr. Isaacson, its Clerk, the signature of the President was requested to House bill, entitled "An act to provide for the payment of the Members, Officers and contingent expenses of the General Assembly," which thereupon received the signature of the President and was returned to the House.

And he informed the Senate that the House had concurred in Senate's joint resolution for the appointment of a joint committee to examine the books and accounts of the Treasurer and Auditor of Public Accounts, and that the Speaker had appointed Messrs. Foulhouze, Anderson of St. Landry, Roubien, Joffrion and Morehead, the committee on the part of the House.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

Mr. J. H. Hardy, special messenger of his Excellency the Governor, delivered to the Senate a sealed Executive communication.

BILLS INTRODUCED WITHOUT NOTICE AND REFERRED.

The hereinafter named Senators, without previous notice and with a suspension of the rules first granted, asked and obtained leave to introduce the following entitled Bills, which underwent their first and second readings by their respective titles, and were referred to the committee on the Judiciary, to-wit:

Mr. Wall.

An Act to authorize a session of the Supreme court to be holden in the town of Greensburg, La.

An Act to abolish the offices of the different Land offices in the State until twelve months after the existing war.

Mr. Weaks.

An act to amend and re-enact an act, relative to Judicial proceedings against persons in the Military or Naval service, approved December 21st, 1861.

BILL INTRODUCED ACCORDING TO NOTICE AND REFERRED.

Mr. Clark, in pursuance to previous no-

tice, asked leave to introduce a Bill entitled "An act to punish Confederate officers and others for impressing private property in violation of law, which underwent its first and second readings, by its title, and it was referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES.

Mr. Weightman on the part of the joint committee on Enrolled Bill of both Houses, submitted the following report to-wit:

The undersigned on behalf of the joint committee on Enrolled Bills of the two Houses of the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, have the honor to report that, in pursuance to the provisions of An Act of the State Legislature, entitled "An Act providing for the performance of the Clerical business of the General Assembly," approved March 20th, 1861, the joint committee have met and have appointed the following Clerks, to-wit:

Mr. J. Hamilton Hardy, Chief Clerk.

Messrs. E. W. Blake, T. D. McCandles, H. Hunsicker, R. J. Lowe, J. G. Arnold, Emmet Rankin and Samuel Wells, Enrolling Clerks.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

[Signed] THOMAS H. WEIGHTMAN,
Chairman Senate Committee.

[Signed] J. C. JOFFRION,
Chairman House Committee.

And the same Senator informed the Senate that the above named Clerks would be sworn in the House.

On motion by the same Senator, the report was adopted.

Mr. Reeves from the Committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred Senate Bills entitled "An Act authorizing Recorders to administer Oaths," and "An Act to change the time of holding Courts in the Tenth Judicial," submitted a favorable report on each of said Bills.

And the same Senator from the same committee to whom was referred Senate Bill entitled "An Act to protect the people against corrupt and secret influence in matters of Legislation," submitted an adverse report.

Mr. Texada, from the committee on Finance, to whom was referred Senate Bill entitled, "An act appropriating \$200,000 for payment of property lost in the public service," submitted a favorable report with amendment.

On motion by the same Senator, the rules were suspended, and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of said Bill which underwent its several readings, and it passed.

On a further motion by the same Senator, the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

REPORT FROM SELECT COMMITTEE.

Mr. Clark from a select joint committee of both Houses, appointed to make the necessary arrangements for the inauguration of

Gen. Henry W. Allen, Governor elect, and Hon. Benjamin W. Pearce, Lieut. Governor of the State of Louisiana, submitted the following report, viz :

The undersigned committee on the part of the Senate, acting in concert with a committee of the House appointed to make the necessary arrangements for the inauguration of Gov. Allen and Lieut. Gov. Pearce, beg leave to report : that the ceremony will take place in the hall of the House of Representatives on Monday, the 25th inst., at 12 o'clock, M.

It was proposed by the committee, that, if the weather is good and the number of spectators too great to be accommodated in the Hall, that the ceremony shall take place in the front portico of the Hall of the House of Representatives.

[Signed] SAMUEL CLARK.
Chairman on the part of the Senate.

On motion the above report was adopted.

Mr. Texada from the select committee to whom was referred House Joint resolution in relation to waiting on the Governor in relation to the purchase of cotton and wool cards, and the construction of iron clads, submitted a favorable report by substitute entitled "Joint resolution requesting the Governor to communicate to the Legislature, what action he has taken relative to the construction of two iron-clads and the purchase of cotton and wool cards under two acts of the last Legislature.

On motion by Mr. Moore, the rules were suspended and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the substitute, which underwent its several readings ; it was adopted and the Secretary directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

On motion by Mr. Weightman the Senate proceeded to the consideration of a resolution, by him introduced on yesterday, providing for the printing of the Constitution of the Confederate States for the use of the Senate; when on motion by Mr. Abney, the further consideration of the same was indefinitely postponed.

On motion by Mr. Weeks, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of a resolution by him introduced on yesterday, providing for the publication of the Journals of the Senate, when Mr. Weightman offered the following as a substitute :

"Resolved, That a special committee of three members of the Senate be appointed by the President to confer with the publishers of the newspapers in the city, and ascertain the cost and expense of publishing the daily proceedings of the Senate, and to report to the Senate," which substitute was accepted and adopted.

And the President appointed on the committee Messrs. Weeks, weightman and Abney.

ORDERS OF THE DAY—2D READINGS.

An Act for the relief of T. B. Thompson.

On motion by Mr. Reeves, the further consideration of this bill was postponed, and it was made the special order of the day for Wednesday next.

Joint resolution relative to a joint committee waiting on the commander of the Trans-Mississippi Department

On motion by Mr. Lott, the further consideration of the same was indefinitely postponed.

An act to change the time of holding court in Fifth Judicial District.

On motion by Mr. Butler the further consideration of this Bill was postponed and it was made the special order of the day for Tuesday next.

An act to protect the people against corrupt and secret influence in matters of Legislation.

On motion of Mr. Reeves the further consideration of this bill was indefinitely postponed.

An act authorizing Recorders to administer Oaths.

On motion by Mr. Weeks, the rules were suspended; this bill underwent its 2d and 3d reading, it passed and the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House thereto.

EXECUTIVE SESSION.

On motion by Mr. Lott, the Senate proceeded with closed doors, to the consideration of Executive business and, after some time spent therein, the doors were re-opened.

On motion by Mr. Butler the Senate adjourned until Monday at 10 o'clock, A. M.

MONDAY, JAN. 25, 1864.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

Present—Hon. Henry M. Hyams, Lieut. Governor and President of the Senate, in the Chair.

Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Butler, Coco, Clark, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Moore, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Wall, Weeks and Weightman. 16 Senators.

The Journal of Saturday was read and approved.

On motion by Mr. Gray, the oath required by Act No. 15 of the State Legislature entitled

"An act prescribing an additional oath to be taken by State, District, Parish and Municipal Officers," approved June 6th, 1863," was administered by the President to Mr. Alexander Barrow, Senator from the District composed of the Parishes of West Baton Rouge, West Feliciana and East Baton Rouge.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATION.

The President laid before the Senate a communication from his Excellency, Thos. O. Moore, Governor of this State, relative to the contingent expenses of the Executive since the 30th day of December, 1862 accompanied with vouchers.

On motion of Mr. Gantt, it was referred to the joint committee of both Houses appointed to examine the books and accounts of the Treasurer and Auditor of Public Accounts.

REPORT FROM A STANDING COMMITTEE.

Mr Butler, from the Committee on the Militia to whom was referred Senate Bill entitled.

"An act to punish persons for harboring deserters," submitted a favorable report with an amendment.

On motion by Mr. Abney, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its second and third readings, and it passed.

On motion by the same Senator the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

BILLS INTRODUCED WITHOUT NOTICE AND REFERRED.

The hereinafter named Senators, without previous notice and, with a suspension of the rules first granted, asked and obtained leave to introduce the following entitled bills which underwent their first and second readings by their respective titles, and they were severally referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, to-wit :

Mr. Butler.

An act to repeal the 67th Section of the act entitled, "An act relative to crimes and offences," approved March 14, 1853.

Mr. Reeves.

An act relative to Confederate and State Bonds.

BILL INTRODUCED WITHOUT NOTICE AND PASSED.

Mr. Moore, without previous notice and, with a suspension of the rules first granted, asked and obtained leave to introduce a bill entitled "An act to repeal the 2d Section of an act entitled An act relative to the State Library," approved March 15th, 1855, which, after a further suspension of the rules, underwent its several readings and it passed.

On a further motion by the same Senator, the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

Mr. John Moore in the Chair.

RESOLUTIONS.

Mr. Texada submitted the following resolutions which were unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That the Presidency of Lieut. Gov. Hyams has been characterized by signal ability, strict impartiality and a zeal which never tired.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Senate and the tribute "well done, good and faithful," are hereby tendered him as a parting testimonial.

Hon. Henry M. Hyams resumed the chair and returned his thanks to the Senate in the following farewell address :

Gentlemen of the Senate :—I am extremely grateful for the warm testimonial which you

have just passed upon my official career as President of your body for the last four years. It is not the first evidence of the confidence which I have been forced to receive at your hands, and the grateful remembrance of which I will carry with me as a consolation, in the midst of our troubles, to that retirement which now awaits me. Gentlemen, no member of the Senate has been more sensible than myself of the indulgence with which my official acts have been received by the Senate for the last four years, and I am satisfied that it was the appreciation by you of any motives which obtained for me that consideration—called to the Senate some eight years since, when party spirit ran high, the subject for some years of its asperity and an active participant on the floor of the Senate both in attack and defence, it could scarcely be expected that in being raised to the Presidency of your body, I could entirely suppress those unrestrained feelings of an ardent temperament which characterized my Senatorial career. I endeavored however to do so, and your unqualified approval of my course as your presiding officer gives me the satisfaction of believing that I succeeded in some degree in the exercise of that impartiality which it was both my duty and my most ardent desire to observe.

And now, gentlemen, about to close in a few moments my political connection with you, I cannot do so without raising my voice as a citizen of our beloved and unfortunate Louisiana to adjure you as representing in part her sovereignty to remonstrance and to protest in the most solemn manner against the policy which has been avowed of "drawing the enemy into the interior," whereby the little of territory that yet remains free from the possession of our vindictive and ferocious foe will be abandoned to him.

Gentlemen, I honor the brave and chivalric soldier to whom has been confided the defence of our beloved State. It would be worse than idle in one whose whole life has been exclusively devoted to civil pursuits to question any military or strategic movement; but this I do know and feel that further "to draw the enemy into the interior" is to abandon the whole State to the permanent occupancy of the enemy.—With our 200,000 slaves, our grainaries of corn, our cotton and sugar, our molasses, our cattle, our household goods, the graves of our sires, and our children, and worse than this, than all, it forces us to leave our helpless wives and children within the lines of the hateful enemy, subject to the insults and outrages of rufian soldiery and the insolence of their own slaves. It forces us to abandon our families or share their fate.

Can we fly with them to our sister State of Texas?—hospitable now no more, if the reports of some of our late unfortunate refugees be true. Are you prepared to

meet this doom without a great effort to avert it. Senators, I adjure you by all that is dear to men, by all you hold sacred, by the love you bear your families, by the remembrance of the sturdy ancestry from which you sprung, by the hopes to which you have always clung of securing to yourselves and your posterity the blessings of Free Government, to protest against this policy and to call upon the Confederate Government in the most solemn manner, as a sovereign State, for that protection which of right is ours by the compact of confederation, and I appeal to you now and forever to oppose any policy which if persisted in, will annihilate Louisiana as a State, blot her out from the map of America and drive forth her people as outcasts naked into the wilderness. Senators, I forbear from pursuing this subject further. Let us, one and all, prepare at once for the imminent deadly struggle. The enemy is at your door and with the first flood will sweep over the land, with the declared object of dooming you to destruction. Let us manfully contest inch by inch every foot of the sacred soil yet remaining to us, and in the end victory will surely crown our efforts; and if we perish, better a thousand times honorable graves than base submission. Gentlemen, I have done.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE.

Mr. Issacson, Clerk of the House, informed the Senate that the House had concurred in Senate's Joint Resolution requesting the Governor to communicate to the Legislature what action he has taken relative to the construction of two iron-clads and the purchase of cotton and wool cards under two acts of the last Legislature.

And he announced that the House was ready to receive the Senate in the Hall of its sittings in order to participate in the inauguration of the Governor and Lieut. Governor elect.

On motion of Mr. Texada, and in conformity with the above invitation, the Senate repaired to the Hall of the House of Representatives.

JOINT SESSION.

Hon. Henry M. Hyams, Lieut. Governor and President of the Senate, in the Chair.

Present—Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Butler, Coco, Clark, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Moore, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Wall, Weeks and Weightman.

16 Senators.

Hon. J. B. Elam, Speaker of the House, in the chair.

Messrs. Anderson, of Madison, Anderson, of St. Landry, Berry, Blanks, Chapman, Cotton, Couvillion, Dougherty, Drake, Foulhouse, Gilmore, Griffin, Hargis, Hawkins, Head, Helm, Hodge, Jack, Jewell, Joffrion, Johnston of Iberville, Johnston of Rapides, Jamison, Mayo, Mott, McCranie, McEnery, Myers, Murrell, More-

head, Newsom, Peck, Perkins, Pitre, Pressley, Robertson, Roubieu, Snyder of Bossier, Snyder of Tensas, Taylor, of Carroll, and Taylor of Union.

42 Representatives.

RECAPITULATION.

16 Senators.

42 Representatives.

Total 58 Members of the General Assembly.

The President submitted to the Legislature the following programme adopted by the Joint Committee of arrangements:

Programme.

1st. The two Houses shall meet in the Hall of the House of Representatives at 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ o'clock, a. m., and repair thence to the front the Capitol.

2d. Roll call of the two Houses.

3d. Administration of oath to Gov. Allen and Lieut. Gov. Pearce.

4th Inauguration by Gov. Allen.

5th. Adjournment of two Houses to their respective Chambers.

(Signed) SAM. CLARK.

Ch'm. Joint Com. of Inauguration.

On motion by Mr. Robertson, of the House, the General Assembly proceeded in a body to the portico of the Court-House and having there arrived, it was called to order by the Hon. Henry M. Hyams, Lieut. Governor and President of the Senate, and the Hon. Joseph B. Elam, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The rolls of the Senate and of the House of Representatives were called with the same result as above.

The Governor of the State, with the Governor and Lieut. Governor elect, accompanied by the Joint Committee of arrangements appeared and conducted to appropriate seats on the right of the Speaker.

The oath prescribed by the Constitution and laws of this State was administered to Gen. Henry W. Allen, Governor elect, and to the Hon. Benjamin W. Pearce, Lieutenant Governor elect, by the Hon. Roland Jones, Judge of the Tenth Judicial District of this State, and the ex-Governor presented to the General Assembly the Governor of Louisiana.

His Excellency Henry W. Allen thereupon delivered the following inaugural address, to-wit:

Gentlemen of the General Assembly

and Fellow-Citizens:

Having been called to the Executive chair by the almost unanimous voice of the State, I now enter upon the duties of that office with the proud satisfaction that I have the confidence of the citizens of Louisiana.—That confidence, I trust, has not been misplaced, for it shall be the sole object of my life, to serve the State faithfully, honestly, and zealously.

Without any solicitation whatever on my part, I have been elected to the highest honor within the gift of the people. If I were ambitious, the measure of my ambition is full. To be called to the helm in these stormy times, to pilot the ship of State, (I trust to a port of safety) is indeed honor enough for any man. I would, therefore, be recreant to every principle of honor, of manliness and of patriotism if, I permitted any thing but a high sense of conscientious duty to govern me in the administration of the affairs of State. I shall not falter in the discharge of the duties assigned me by the constitution, but whenever the good of the people require it, and I have the power, I shall take all responsibilities, and trust to you and your constituents to support me.

My distinguished predecessor this day leaves the Executive chair, and returns to private life. I fully appreciate the trials and troubles through which he has been called to pass. I honor his spotless integrity and his patriotic heart. May long life and happiness attend him, for he has been to the State a faithful servant.

The people having called me from the camp to assume the robes of civil office, come weal—come woe—I am prepared to do my duty. For nearly three years we have battled with a cruel and vindictive foe. We have suffered many losses, and gained many victories. The spirit of our people is still unbroken. The fires of patriotism still blaze as brightly on hill-top and on mountain, as when this great revolution began. Many portions of our fair State have been overrun by the enemy, many houses and homes have been burned and destroyed—many brave men have died in defense of our soil. Age and innocence have alike been murdered, and the widow and the orphan have been brought to the door of starvation. The enemy, glutted with murder, rapine and plunder, seem to have sickened at their own outrages, and are now offering terms of peace; a species of mock pardon. But what terms of peace does the bloody Moloch at Washington suggest to his Congress?

1st. You must give up all your negroes and make them your equals.

The constitution of the United States guarantees property in your slaves—for Washington, and Madison, and Jefferson, were all slave-holders under that constitution. But Lincoln's proclamation overrides all constitutional and judicial barriers, and aims a death blow at your dearest rights.

2nd. You must swear not only to support the Federal constitution, but all the nefarious acts of the Black Republican party, and the unconstitutional proclamations of Abraham Lincoln.

3rd. You must, if required, hunt down your brother and your neighbor, bind them

hand and foot, and deliver them up to death. The father who has sons in the Confederate army, is ordered to forswear the lands of his birth or adoption, and aid in the assassination of his own offspring.

The fiend of hell in all his malice never conceived such unnatural and infernal wickedness!

Great God! Peace to whom! Peace to you whose brothers have been slain—whose lands have been despoiled—whose homes have been burned—whose wives and whose daughters have been basely insulted!—'Tis the voice of the murderer with bloody hands reeking from his assassination, who now proposes terms of amity to the brother of his bleeding victim! 'Tis the incendiary outlaw who returns from burning your houses and despoiling your lands! 'Tis the black hearted villian who has insulted your wives and daughters, and who now asks you to take a seat around his loathsome fireside and bask in the smiles of his own licentiousness! Forbid it, Almighty God! Let there be no peace between us until we are free forever from this accursed race!—Is peace so sweet as to be purchased at the price of reconstruction! Oh, think not of reconstruction! Reconstruction means subjugation, ruin and death. The martyrs of our holy cause—those heroic men who shed their blood for us at Manassas, at Shiloh, at Sharpsburg, and a hundred other battle fields, would rise in solemn procession from the chambers of the dead and rebuke this unholy alliance. A gallant young Louisianian was dying on the field of Shiloh; as I passed him, he called me to his side, said he; "My Colonel, I am dying. If you should live to get back to Louisiana, tell my aged father that I died for my country, and oh, tell him to fight this battle out—to lose negroes and lands and life itself, but never, never go back to the old Union."

Those words are still ringing in my ears, and I tell them to you to-day: "Lose negroes, lose lands, lose every thing, lose life itself," but never think of reconstruction.—There is a sea of blood between us, we cannot pass that sea. Let us rather add thereto a wall of living fire, and a gulf, deep and dark of eternal hate. I speak to day by authority. I speak as the Governor of the State of Louisiana, and I wish it known at Washington and elsewhere, that rather than reconstruct this government and go back to the Union, on any terms whatever, the people of Louisiana will, in convention assembled, without a dissenting voice, cede the State to any European power. Give us the guillotine or Botany Bay, the knout, or Siberia, the bow-string or the Bosphorus, rather than suffer the brutal outrages of Yankee subjugation. I speak to-day not only for the loyal citizens of Louisiana who have stood by the State in all her trials, but in behalf of the misguided individuals who

have been compelled to take the oath of allegiance to the Federal Government. In their hearts they are true to us and are praying daily for the triumph of our arms. They have felt the very iron in their souls, and know full well the course of reconstruction. I speak by authority, for they write me daily, that they would rather, by ten thousand times, be the subjects of the Emperor of France, than the slaves of Abraham Lincoln. If God in his inscrutable Providence, should permit the enemy to overwhelm us, then let us retire to our mountains and our caves, and there let us swear by the blood of our murdered fathers, brothers—by the sufferings and insults of our mothers, wives, and sisters, that we will issue forth and hunt the enemy, as we hunt the wild beast of the forest. Oh! give us honorable graves by far, in preference to base servitude, to chains and slavery.

"Aye! better be

Where the ensanguined Spartans still are free,

In their proud charnel of Thermopylae."

The despot who now sits upon the Federal throne, is doubtless dreaming of the axe and halter—of the rack and dungeon—wherewithal to wreak his vengeance on his supposed rebellious subjects. So once,

"At midnight, in his guarded tent,

The Turk was dreaming of the hour

When Greece, her knee in supppliance bent
Should tremble at his power.

Morning came—Marco Bozarris was there. The Turk it was that died, and Greece was free. Our Bozarris will yet live to see the proud oppressor humbled in the dust. The history of the world does not show a solitary instance wherein six millions of brave people, determined to be free, were ever conquered. The wars of Scotland began by Sir William Wallace and the Bruce, were carried on for a century against the power of England, and would have been continued to this day by the brave Scots, but Scotland's King became the Sovereign of the Realm. The history of the Netherlands and the Low Countries is full of interest—full of encouragement to every patriot's heart. The militia, a mere mob, badly officered, and poorly armed and equipped, fought the armies of Spain, then the "harnessed chivalry" of Europe, for years and years, one generation taking up the war where the other had left it, until the Dutch Republic finally triumphed. But the history of the American Revolution claims our attention more than any other. We have as yet fought but three: our fathers fought for seven long years. At one time all their ports were more closely blockaded than ours—Boston and New York and Philadelphia—Baltimore, Norfolk, Charleston and Savannah, were all in the hands of the British, and remained in their possession for years. After a most

disastrous campaign, Gen. Washington crossed the Delaware with only three thousand weary-worn soldiers. He had no army stores, no parks of artillery, no arsenals, no foundries,—still he did not despair. He trusted in God and fought the British, and at Yorktown gained our independence. Should you be despondent when you have an army of three hundred thousand men in the field, commanded by such generals as Lee, Beauregard and Johnston? After all our wars and sieges and battles—after disease and death have done their work, we still have in this Confederacy, between the ages of fifteen and fifty, 700,000 men. The two States of Georgia and Alabama alone can easily furnish the entire Confederacy, east of the Mississippi river, with corn. South Carolina furnishes rice, and Florida the beef.—Who talks then of despair? who is desponding? Let the croaker go to his wife, if he has one, and tie himself to her apron strings and nurse the children the rest of his days! Providence has smiled upon the land everywhere, and blessed us with bread in abundance. Gen. Marion lived upon hard fare—Gen. Lee does the same; he lives on the same fare with the humblest soldier.—But they all have enough. The heart must be ungrateful indeed that murmurs now, when we have carried on this great struggle for three years, and still there is plenty in the land.

Our people, it is true, have suffered much, but they bear their losses with patriotic fortitude. Yes, our people have suffered—how much, the Almighty Ruler of the Universe only knows. The world will never know. In the country parishes, black desolation is found in the trail of the despoiler. Farm houses have been stripped of every article of furniture—barns and fences destroyed, the implements of husbandry have been burnt, and the very cloth of the poor widow has been cut from the loom by the orders of yankee generals. In our cities it has been worse. The Beast Butler came to New Orleans a poor New England bankrupt, with empty pockets and a lie upon his coward lips. He left that devoted city with the maledictions of all, for he basely insulted the women and robbed the men. The untold millions of wealth that this Beast stole in New Orleans are only known to himself and his robber brother.

Benjamin F. Butler, of Massachusetts, I arraign you to day at the bar of the civilized world. You told the people of New Orleans upon your arrival there, that none should be compelled to take the oath of allegiance to the Federal Government, but that it was a privilege to be sought after by the citizens. But just so soon as you had them in your power, you required every man and woman in the city to come forward and take that oath. Many left,

and many stayed and registered themselves as enemies. Then began by your orders the most outrageous promiscuous plundering that was ever witnessed on this continent. It was indeed the saturnalia of thieves. All were robbed who came under the ban of your displeasure. A very respectable merchant of that city, a non-combatant, finding that he, like all his friends and neighbors, would be robbed, sold his silver plate, a large and valuable set, to a widow lady to whom he was indebted.—This lady put the plate on board a Danish ship, and took bills of lading for same.—You heard of it, sent armed soldiery, took the ship, broke open the hatches, and seized the plate. Not satisfied with that, you sent this merchant to Ship Island and kept him there, at hard labor for months.

You arrested another merchant and demanded his plate—he informed you he had sent it off. Your reply was, “The plate or Ship Island.” Finding that you could not get the plate, you released him upon his paying you a large amount of money, which money you pocketed. These are facts sworn to and subscribed in my office, and I record them here to show to the civilized world how the people of Louisiana have been treated by one of the Satraps of Abraham Lincoln. Every Sabbath morning, the thieves met at the den of the Beast, and the stealings of the past week were divided out. To the jackals he gave the spoons and the trinkets, but reserved to himself the lion’s share, the coin, the plate and the jewels. A large portion of the moveable wealth of the city of New Orleans and lower Louisiana has been transferred to the pockets of this bleared-eyed, incarnate devil—a great part of which he put into Foreign exchange and sent to Europe; and now he is by far the richest man on the continent. He can loan money to the Rothschilds, and buy out the wealthiest citizen of New York. Cicero has given the name of Verres immortal infamy, and that of Butler is now known throughout the civilized world as a synonym for crime, cowardice and brutality. When the Southern student shall in future ages, study the classics, as he reads that beautiful oration of Cicero against Verres, he will involuntary pause, and for the Sicilian robber, will read, Butler the Beast! “I ask now, Verres, what hast thou to say against this charge?” I ask now, Butler the Beast, what hast thou to say against thy dark and damning crimes! At the dead hour of night, upon the false accusation of a negro woman, you dragged from a sick bed an aged man, one of the most respectable citizens of New Orleans, and thrust him into a cold and miserable cell. He died of your treatment. His wife, an amiable, well bred and lovely woman, went to you, and upon her knees begged for her husband. You held a loaded pistol to the weeping face of

that lady, and drove her from your bloated presence with the most vulgar and obscene oaths. With the fiendish heart of the hyena, you tore open the tomb of General Albert Sidney Johnson, and robbed the grave of that gallant soldier. You may never feel the halter draw in this world. You may live to old age, and possibly die in your bed, with your stolen property around you. But a day will come, the “*dies iræ*” will come, when you shall meet face to face the women you have brutally insulted, and the men you have robbed and murdered, at the bar of an avenging God! Beware the fate of Verres. He died a felon’s death. Mark Anthony demanded a portion of his ill-gotten gains; he refused and was slain.—When led to death he begged for that mercy he had so often denied to others.—The spirits of your murdered victims say, beware! The living friends of the dead say, beware! The patient search of the vigil long will find you out, and drag you from your hiding place. Your coat of mail will not save you, for your hour will come at last.

There is in the Vatican at Rome, an extraordinary painting by one of the old masters. It is called the “Devil reproving sin.” The great artist has, by prophetic pencil, portrayed the exact features of Benjamin F. Butler. As statues will, no doubt, be erected to him in all the Federal cities, I suggest that the holy father, Pius the Ninth, be urgently solicited to send this painting to the city of New Orleans, for the present and all future ages to behold with horror and disgust.

In the small city of Baton Rouge, the enemy took special delight in destroying, not only public, but private property.—Not satisfied with burning the State House, with its valuable library, they took a malicious pleasure in robbing nearly every private residence in the place. They carried away as part of their “*warlike trophies*” fifty private pianos. The wardrobes of ladies were broken open and searched by Yankee commissioned officers, and their silk dresses were taken by these same officers and sent to their own families in Yankee land.

The Provost Marshal at Baton Rouge, an officer thought by some of our people to be a gentleman and treated as such, was the foremost man, the ring-leader, in this paltry theft. When an officer under orders from his General drives off a gang of negroes, he can perhaps be excused, for he is obeying orders. But when a Federal officer, with a commission in his pocket, robs defenceless widows of their pianos, and steals their silk dresses, what can you think of such a nation? They are robbers, all. In Point Coupee, they deliberately fired their cannon upon the Parish Church, while the people were engaged in worship, and in Florida they tore the sacred emblems of

the Saviour from the altar of the living God, and with unholy hands prostituted them in their filthy camps. If all the rich household furniture, and jewels, and plate, and coin, that Federal officers have stolen from the people of this Confederacy were heaped into one vast pile, it would form a huge monument of shame, at which the civilized and christian world would stand aghast! Yet, no Federal officer has ever been punished for these robberies; on the contrary, all have been promoted. The Beast, and Neal Dow, and Milroy, and Hunter, with a host of lesser scoundrels, like Dudley and Killborn, still go unwhipped of justice. The jewels which they have torn from the persons of the most respectable ladies in the country, they now offer for sale in the public markets. The army and the navy rob; Commanding Generals and Commodores steal. Some fancy a likely negro girl, others prefer a carriage and horses, while a third will take your piano, or your wife's silk dresses. There is a wild hunt for plunder, a mania for stealing, from the Major-General down to the humblest private in the ranks. And all this is done in the nineteenth century, and countenanced, yea, applauded, by the people who read the Bible and claim to be christians!

When Warren Hastings returned to England with his skirts dripping with Indian blood, and his pockets filled with Indian gold, he was met by the eloquent rebuke of Burke, and Sheridan, and a host of noble Britons. He was arraigned at the bar of the country and impeached for high crimes and misdemeanors. In eloquent, burning, and indignant language he was denounced as the enemy of mankind. There is no Burke, no Sheridan, in the Federal Congress. But the robber who returns from the South with a hundred cold blooded murders upon his soul, and millions of stolen property in his possession, is honored, and promoted, and feted, and bespattered with fulsome praise.

But let us turn from these disgusting scenes to more pleasant topics.

In a recent tour through most of the parishes of the State, I found the great wants of the country to be cotton cards and medicines. Our fair countrywomen have been the truest patriots of the land. The main object of their lives seems to be to clothe their sons and brothers. It is a pleasing sight to visit the farm houses of the State in these warlike times. You will find the mother and her daughters seated around the fire-side, plying the loom, the spindle, and the needle—all busily engaged in making clothes for their soldier boys. Heaven will smile upon these noble women, and a grateful country will ever hold them the dearest treasure on earth. I shall, in due time, recommend to you that you enact a law, placing in the hands of each female

of this State, above the age of eighteen, a pair of cotton cards, free of cost and charges.

I shall further recommend to you the passage of a bill for the purpose of supplying the people of this State with medicines. In many portions of the country, calomel, opium and quinine cannot be had. The people must have them; and I shall recommend that the Executive be empowered to send competent and trustworthy agents to purchase a supply of these necessary articles for the people of this State. I propose, when purchased, that they be distributed among the practising physicians at cost and charges, requiring them, by bond, to administer the medicines to their patients at the same prices. With a plenty of cotton cards we can clothe our soldiers in the field, and with a plenty of medicines we can heal our sick at home—and backed by a patriotic people, we will fight the enemy for forty years to come. When was there ever seen, since the world began, so much patriotism exhibited as you find among the ladies of New Orleans. They have been imprisoned, robbed and insulted. Like the chosen people of God who sat by the rivers of Babylon, they are now weeping in their captivity, and looking with anxious hearts for the coming of our armies, and the triumph of our cause. Many of our noble women, hearing of the sufferings and insults of their sisters in the city, have fled the approach of the enemy, and now with their tender children are living in the wretched hovels battling the discomforts of life and the hardships of war with hearts of Spartan mothers. They shall see their homes again, and

"The baby that's sleeping

While its mother is weeping."

While its mother is weeping, shall live to be the joy of its mother's heart. Oh, mothers of Louisiana, God Almighty bless you and sustain you in this your hour of trial! Kiss your gentle babes and send your sons to battle. Your prayers have pierced the clouds—they have ascended to the skies, and our Heavenly Father will, in his own good time, answer your petitions. We are told in the sacred scriptures that Miriam once stood upon the Red Sea banks and clapped her hands for joy, for the hosts of Pharaoh were destroyed; "the horses and the riders were thrown into the sea." Yes, ladies of Louisiana, you too shall clap your hands for joy, for we will triumph.—The vandal hosts of the destroyer will be hurled back to their homes, and peace, gentle peace, with healing in his wings, will come and bind up the broken hearts, and bless our distracted land.

And now, Gentlemen of the General Assembly, I cannot close this address without touching upon a very important subject—by far the most important that will come before you. You are the auditory nerve of this State. What is spoken here,

is, or will be, heard in every portion of the land. I therefore address the people of Louisiana through you to-day. Would to God that all my fellow-citizens were here on this occasion. If a soldier deserts his flag, leaves the army without permission and comes home to look after his wife and children, do not you and I, and all the people, point the finger of scorn at him? A hue and cry is raised—the cavalry is sent out—he is arrested, court-martialed, and punished as a deserter. Why? Because there is an obligation resting upon him, to obey his commanding officer, stand by his colors and fight the battles of his country. There is an obligation equally as strong resting upon those who stay at home and enjoy the comforts of life, to support the soldier's wife and children. You men of wealth whom God has blessed in "basket and in store," open your corn cribs and your meat houses, and send for the soldier's wife and children. Bid them come freely, without money and without price, and consider it not only a duty, but a privilege to aid them. Oh, you have a fearful responsibility resting upon you. You have it now in your power to do much good to your country, for by feeding the soldiers' wives at home, you will keep the soldiers themselves in field. Most of the desertions that take place are caused by news from home that the soldier's family is starving.

Our wealthy men, generally, have nobly done their duty. They have given their sons cheerfully, and their substance freely, to the Confederacy. They have opened their barns and store-houses to the poor and the needy, and are now, with generous hearts, doing all in their power for our sacred cause. Noble Louisianians, be not weary in well doing. You will be emboldened in the affections of your countrymen, and the recipients of your kindness will ever bless you.

There are, however, I am sorry to say it, a few men in our midst, who seem to take no interest whatever in this war. They send their negroes to labor on the public works through compulsion, and pay their taxes grudgingly. They stay at home and hoard up their riches with miserly care, and leave the soldiers to fight their battles in the field.

Their barns and their store-houses are shut up to all, except the moneyed man, the speculator, who buys in large quantities, and then grows fat upon the necessities of the poor. To these men I would say, "talent which you have received, and digged, and hid in the earth, shall be taken from you." If we fail, the robber will lay his rough and heavy hands upon your lands and your slaves, and neither you nor your children will ever enjoy them again. What are your broad acres and your hundreds of slaves, compared to the issues of the great struggle now going on in this country?—

The lurid fires of war are now blazing around you. The enemy is at your door, and you sit still hugging to your bosoms the delusive hope that you will make some terms with him, and save your property.—If the enemy spared not the slaves of good Union men, do you think he will spare yours? If we fail, our negroes will be driven off at the point of the bayonet, and your lands will be parcelled out amongst the hireling soldiery of Abraham Lincoln.

I, therefore, urgently appeal to every man in the State, not to speculate in order that he may make money, but to do all he can for the wives and children of those who are fighting his battles. I earnestly appeal to every man, rich or poor to aid in every possible way he can, the wife of the gallant soldier, who cannot remain at home to take care of his property, or minister to the wants of his family.

It may well be asked in these troublous times, what will become of the negro?

The status of the negro race has been fixed by the immutable laws of God, and the Yankee at home does not wish to change it, even if he could. The race ever has been, is now, and ever will be "the hewers of wood and drawers of water." Go to New England, New York or Illinois, and you will find them everywhere performing the menial offices of life. If, when this war is ended, there should be found alive any negroes in the hands of the enemy, they will have a hard time, indeed. They will not be permitted to labor on the railroads, the canals, or the public works of any kind, for the Irish and Dutch will rise in mobs and drive them off. Yankee society will not educate them for the bar, the bench or the pulpit. Yankee pride will not tolerate their intermarriage with the whites. Driven from the social circle, and all the industrial pursuits of life, what will become of the poor negro? As a drivelling outcast, he will become a mendicant wanderer.—His doom will be the prison and the work-house.

There are two kinds of Abolitionists in the United States, the political and the religious. The religious steal the negroes, and the political kill them. From reliable information in my possession, two-thirds of all the negroes that have gone to the enemy are now in their graves. Many are daily deserting and returning to their old masters, sick and sore and emaciated, and begging that they may be permitted to die at home in peace. There was once in the river parishes and the lower portion of this State, the most contended and happy race of laborers ever seen on earth. Music and the merry laugh were nightly heard from their comfortable quarters, for peace and plenty and quiet blessed both master and servant. But now desolation, want and disease fill the cabins of these once happy and contented laborers. In an evil hour

the destroyer came. He poisoned the ears and corrupted the hearts of these people.—They have either been enticed away from their comfortable homes, or driven by force of arms, and now upon hard fare and harder work, they can only dream of the blessings of the old plantation, where the meal-house and corn crib were always full and at their command.

The white inhabitants of our State have suffered much in this war, but the blacks have suffered far more. I have seen many of these unfortunate creatures, who, at the risk of their lives have run off from the enemy's encampments. They all give the most heart-rending account of their sufferings. Men, women and children are crowded together in miserable huts. No attention is paid to the sick, but little medicine and no nurses. Mothers die on the cold ground, with their little helpless children around them. In their own language, "the doctor was seldom sent for, and when he did come the sick ones always died," and when they died they were buried more like dogs than human beings! What a commentary on Yankee philanthropy!—They first kill the negro to make him free, and then refuse him a christian burial!

We will carry the institution of domestic slavery with us triumphantly through this war, and then it will rest on a firmer basis than ever, and be administered better and more wisely. This institution will triumph with us, because it is right and just in the sight of Almighty God. That best of all books, the Bible, which is so much despised by Abolitionists, from the beginning to the end thereof, sanctions slavery. The patriarchs were all slaveholders, and bought and sold their slaves then as we do now.—The same inspired man to whom the Ten Commandments were delivered, and who stood in the presence of the Great Jehovah, gave laws for the government of slaves.—President Lincoln and his followers say that it is an awful sin to own a slave, but that it is not only right but highly commendable to burn a church, rob the widow and the orphan, and shoot down unoffending citizens! It is no harm to break open a Masonic Lodge, and with sacriligious hands steal and despoil its regalia! It is all right and proper to devote whole Parishes, burn villages, and barns, and store-houses, bombard cities without notice, and hang non-combatants; but oh, it is a terrible crime to buy a negro, treat him well, and let him work for you! Shame, eternal burning shame upon such loathsome hypocrisy! There ever has been, and there is now, the kindest feeling existing between the master and his servant. Notwithstanding a brutal and vindictive enemy has advised the negroes to murder their masters, there have been no evidences of insurrection in our midst—on the contrary, there are hundreds of instances where the master has gone to the war and

left his wife and children in the hands of his negroes, and well have they served, guarded, and protected them.

When the children of Israel went up out of Egypt to the promised land, they took their servants with them. Master and servant, hand in hand, together crossed the Red Sea, and when safely over, they both alike rejoiced at the destruction of their pursuer. The faithful historian who shall in after times write the history of this war, will doubtless record many instances wherein the negro slave has been unfaithful to his owner—but he will, on the other hand, devote many a bright page to the deep fidelity and noble heroism of the servant in defense of the rights and interests of his master, and that historian may close his volume by recording this important fact—that "at the close of the great struggle between the North and the South, master and servant were found in the ranks side by side, fighting bravely, shoulder to shoulder, for the independence which they have so gloriously achieved, and, the liberties which they now enjoy."

I shall take occasion to call the attention of the General Assembly to the passage of such laws as I think the times demand, and the exigencies of the country require. Especially shall I call your attention to the unauthorized and illegal manner in which the "impressment act" has been executed in this State. Officers, or those claiming to be officers of the Confederacy, in making their illegal impressments, have added insult to injury. This must be stopped, and I shall look to you for the passage of a law making such offences a felony, and punishable by imprisonment in the State Penitentiary. The people must and shall be protected in all their civil rights. In this connection, I am happy to express my hearty approbation of the conduct of Lt. Gen. E. Kirby Smith, the Commanding officer of the Department, and of Major Gen. Taylor. These commanding officers have not only done their duty most nobly, but whenever there has been a conflict between the civil and military authorities, they have most cheerfully submitted to the decision of the Courts of the State. Happy are we indeed in these days of despotic power, to have such patriotic Generals. May they long live to receive the plaudits of a grateful country!

You, gentlemen, are assembled together on no ordinary occasion. You have much to do. Your constituents expect much at your hands. My hearty co-operation will cheerfully be given to every measure that may tend to guard the citizen in his rights, and secure the liberties of the people.—While I urge upon you the strictest economy in all your acts, still I would say, spare no expense. Stand not upon dollars and cents, when the safety of your country requires your action. Let every man who owes service to his country, go to the army.

Let every man who stays at home, do his duty—frown down extortion and vice in every shape and every form. Be true to yourselves, and leave the rest to God! Be true to yourselves, and the country is safe.

The General Assembly was then called to order by the Hon. Benjamin W. Pearce, Lieut. Governor and President of the Senate.

When, on motion by Mr. Clark, the Senate withdrew to the hall of its sittings.

On arriving at the Senate Chamber, it was called to order by its President, Lieut. Governor Benjamin W. Pearce.

On a call of the roll the following named Senators were present, to-wit:

Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Butler, Clark, Coco, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Moore, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Wall, Weak and Weightman.

16 Senators.

On assuming his seat the Lieut. Governor delivered a short address in which he returned his thanks, through the Senate, to the people of the State for the honor conferred on him in elevating him to his present position, and promising to devote his best abilities to the discharge of his duties.

On motion of Mr. Texada, the Senate adjourned until to-morrow at 11 o'clock, a. m.

TUESDAY, JAN. 26, 1864.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

Present—The Hon. Benjamin W. Pearce, Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate in the chair.

Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Butler, Clark, Coco, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Moore, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Wall, Weak and Weightman. 16 Senators.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

On motion by Mr. Clark, the President appointed Master S. Kerley page of the Senate during the sickness of Master Robert Her.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATION.

The President laid before the Senate a communication from the Auditor of Public Accounts transmitting a detailed statement of the contingent expenses of his office from the 1st of April to the 31st December, 1863.

When on motion by Mr. Weightman the same was referred to the joint committee of both Houses appointed to examine the books, accounts, &c., of the Treasurer and Auditor of Public Accounts.

RESOLUTION.

Mr. Butler submitted the following resolution which was considered by unanimous consent and agreed to.

Resolved, That the President of the Senate be authorized to draw up the necessary warrants, duly approved by the Committee on Auditing and Supervising the expenses

of the Senate, in favor of Mr. A. M. Gray, Senator of the parishes of Avoyelles, Pointe Coupee and West Feliciana, for his mileage and per diem, at the last session of the Legislature held at Shreveport.

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES.

Mr. Moore, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred Senate bills entitled:

"An act concerning printing for the Legislative and Executive Departments of the State of Louisiana."

"An act to punish Confederate officers and others for impressing private property in violation of law." and.

"An act to amend and re-enact an act relative to judicial proceedings against persons in the military or naval service, approved December 21st, 1861." submitted a favorable report on each of said bills.

Mr. Wall, from the committee on Public Education to whom was referred Senate's resolution instructing the committee on Public Education to inquire into the expediency of abolishing the office of Superintendent of Public Education, stated that being the only member of the committee present he could not act on the bill; he begged leave to return the same to the Senate, and asked to be discharged from the further consideration of the same, which

On motion by Mr. Moore, was acceded to and the resolution was re-committed to the committee of the whole.

BILLS INTRODUCED WITHOUT NOTICE AND REFERRED.

The hereinafter named Senators, without previous notice and with a suspension of the rules first granted, asked and obtained leave to introduce the following entitled bills, which underwent their first and second readings by their respective titles and they were severally referred to the committee on the Judiciary, viz:

Mr. Lott,

An act to prevent the enemy from using certain property belonging to citizens of this State, in prosecuting the war against them.

Mr. Gantt,

An act to repeal an act entitled "an act relative to suits or proceedings for the forfeiture of Charters of the Banks of this State or the involuntary liquidation thereof, approved January 20th, 1862.

An act to regulate interest.

An act to prevent the issuing of licenses to any person who is not a citizen of the Confederate States and who have taken the oath of allegiance to the United States since the 1st of July, 1862.

An act to regulate the employment of certain persons.

Mr. Weightman.

An act to repeal an act relative to suits or proceeding for the forfeiture of charters

of the Banks of this State and the involuntary liquidation thereof.

SPECIAL ORDER OF THE DAY.

This being the day set apart for the consideration of Senate bill entitled,

"An act to change the time of holding court in the Tenth Judicial District," the same was taken up :

When on motion by Mr. Butler, the further consideration of this bill was postponed and it was made the special order of the day for to-morrow immediately after the reading of the journal.

This being also the day set apart for the consideration of the motion made by Mr. Weightman on the 23d instant: "That the President appoint the committee on Public Works," it was taken up and adopted.

And the President appointed

Messrs. Weightman, Rogers, Abney, Butler, Lott, Wall, Barrow, Coco and Fuller. on the committee.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.

On motion by Mr. Butler, the Senate resolved itself into a committee of the whole ; the President called Mr. John Moore to the chair.

The Senate in committee of the whole, proceeded to the consideration of a

"Resolution instructing the committee on Public Education to inquire into the expediency of abolishing the office of Superintendent of Public Education," at the same time,

On motion by Mr. Gantt, the committee rose.

Hon. Benjamin W. Pearce, Lieut. Governor and President of the Senate, in the chair.

Mr. Moore, chairman of the committee of the whole, reported that they have had the above resolution under consideration, and report by bill entitled.

"An act to abolish the office of Superintendent of Public Education."

Which was passed to its second reading.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened, That the office of Superintendent of Public Education of the State of Louisiana is hereby abolished.

On motion by Mr. McDonald, the 1st Section was amended by inserting after the word "Louisiana," in the 3d line, the following words: "a majority of the members elected to both Houses concurring."

On motion by Mr. Moore the 1st section was adopted as amended.

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, &c., That this act shall take effect from an after its passage.

Mr. Texada moved to amend the 2d Section by striking out the words "its passage" and inserting in lieu thereof the words

"the expiration of the term of the present incumbent."

On motion by Mr. Gantt, Mr. Texada's amendment was ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Weightman moved to amend this section by striking out the word "passage" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "one year after its passage."

On motion by Mr. Gantt, Mr. Weightman's amendment was ordered to lie on the table.

And the 2d Section was adopted.

On motion by Mr. Moore the rules were suspended and on the question of its final passage, the yeas and nays were ordered and being taken resulted as follows, to-wit :

Yeas—Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Butler, Coco, Clark, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Moore, Rogers, Wall and Weak. 13 Senators.

Nays—Messrs. Texada and Weightman. 2 Senators.

So the bill passed.

On motion by Mr. Moore the Senate adjourned until to-morrow at 11 o'clock, a. m.

WEDNESDAY, January 27th, 1864.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

Present—The Hon. Benjamin W. Pearce, Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate in the chair,

Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Coco, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Moore, Pond, Reeves, Texada, Wall, Weak and Weightman—15 Senators,

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

COMMUNICATION.

The President submitted to the Senate a communication from the Secretary of State enclosing election returns from the parishes of East Feliciana, West Baton Rouge and East Baton Rouge, according to which it appears that Mr. Preston Pond, jr., has been elected a member of the Senate from the Senatorial district composed of those parishes.

On motion by Mr. Gantt the oath of office was administered by the President to Mr. Preston Pond, jr.

MESSAGE TO THE HOUSE.

The Secretary requested the concurrence of the House in Senate bill entitled an act to abolish the office of Superintendent of Public Education.

MEMORIAL.

Mr. Moore presented to the Senate a memorial from the members of the Grand Jury of the parish of Caddo in relation to certain amendments to the gambling law, which was read, and on motion by Mr. Moore, ordered to lie over.

RESOLUTION.

Mr. McDonald submitted the following

resolution, which was considered by unanimous consent and agreed to :

Resolved, That the Committee on Finance be instructed to inquire into the propriety of abolishing the office of State Engineer, and report as soon as practicable.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

Mr. H. M. Favrot, Private Secretary of His Excellency Henry W. Allen, Governor of the State of Louisiana, delivered to the Senate the following communication, viz :

Executive Office, }

Shreveport, La. Jan. 27, 1864. }

To the Honorable the President
and members of the La. Senate :

Gentlemen :—I have the honor to transmit to you my message by my private Secretary, H. M. Favrot.

Very respectfully, your obdt serv't,

HENRY W. ALLEN,

Governor of the State of Louisiana.

Gentlemen of the Senate and

House of Representatives :

The Constitution requires that the Governor shall from time to time give to the General Assembly information respecting the situation of the State, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he may deem expedient. I now proceed to comply with that duty.

MILITARY.

I recommend that the Executive be authorized immediately to call into the field, and to officer a regiment to consist of five hundred mounted men, (to be increased to one thousand, if necessary), to be called "The State Guard." In many of the border Parishes of this State, there is neither military nor civil law, and crimes are daily committed with impunity. The Confederate authorities cannot correct these evils, and the Executive is at present powerless. It would be the especial duty of this force to arrest all offenders against the laws, and generally to act as conservators of the peace. In times like these, the Executive should always have in hand a strong squadron to protect the citizens against bands of lawless men, and follow up crime with certain punishment. With five hundred mounted men, well officered, armed and equipped, more good service can be rendered the State than with the entire militia.

The present militia law is a nullity, there being no method provided for its enforcement. It is certainly the duty of every citizen, rich or poor, old or young, when his country is invaded, to rally in the defense of that country. Our people are all ready and willing to do this; but they have a natural aversion to going into camps of instruction. Besides, the policy of the country evidently demands that they should stay at home and raise crops, and prepare nothing for the army:

No law in any government can be well

executed unless it meets popular approbation. I submit to your superior intelligence the synopsis of a bill, the details of which shall be cheerfully communicated to your military committees :

1st. Enroll every able-bodied white male in the State, between the ages of fifteen and fifty-five.

2nd. Arm and equip every enrolled man, and until arms can be had, repair those now in the hands of the people.

3rd. Give the Executive full power to call out the militia, or any part thereof—provided they shall not be kept in the field longer than sixty days at a time.

4th. Adopt the Army Regulations and Articles of War of the Confederacy, as far as practicable for the government of the militia.

It is not intended by this bill, that the militia shall ever be called to the field as regular troops. They are to be kept at home, and held in readiness, for the purpose of checking the raids and incursions of the enemy, by land or water. The repeal of the substitute law by Congress, will greatly reduce the militia of the State; still that militia, by the bill proposed, can be rendered very efficient, at little cost to the State.

INTOXICATING LIQUORS.

The General Assembly, at its last session, very wisely enacted a law prohibiting the distillation of intoxicating liquors, except from fruit. This has had a most salutary effect. There is still a crying evil in our midst. We are importing daily from neighboring States large quantities of alcoholic poison. The effect of this poison upon the community is most lamentable. I need go no further than this capital, to show you the long record of crime brought on by intoxication. In the army it is worse; nine-tenths of the arrests and punishments are caused from intoxicating liquors.

I therefore urgently recommend that you enact a law, prohibiting under severe penalties, the importation or sale of intoxicating liquors in this State, except for medical purposes. The fathers and mothers of this State will "rise up and call you blessed" for such a law; and the good people generally will hail it with delight; for it will save many a gallant young soldier from punishment and disgrace, and, in these reckless times, give peace and quiet and security to all. "Lead us not into temptation," is the Savior's prayer. Then take this tempting poison from before our young men. The use of ardent spirits is a luxury; nothing more, nothing less; and our patriotic people will most cheerfully dispense with that luxury during the war. Besides, the trade now carried on in liquors is diverting a large capital into improper channels, which, instead of being used for the good of the country, is flooding the land with poison, and death and crime in all its

horrid shapes. It may be urged that such a law will be a dead-letter on the statute book. To this, I will simply reply, that if you should, in your wisdom, see proper to enact such a law as here suggested, it shall be executed.

SOLDIERS' WIVES AND SOLDIERS' FAMILIES.

Liberal appropriations should be made for the soldiers' wives, and the widows of those gallant men, who have fallen in our service. In my Inaugural address, I fully set forth their claims to your protecting care. The Executive should be authorized to make arrangement with the commanding General of this Department, for the purchase of government corn; which should be distributed from the several depots of the State, in such quantities as will supply the wants of these deserving ladies and their children. Their husbands are either in the army, or have died as brave soldiers for us. It is, therefore, the sacred duty of this State to provide for their families.

IMPRESSMENT ACT.

In every portion of the State, the people are complaining most bitterly of the manner in which the act of Congress, known as the "impressment act," is executed. The duty of the officer who impresses private property, is plainly laid down, and a severe penalty is denounced against all who do not comply with the provisions of the law. In numerous instances no appraisalment whatever has been made, no facts legally ascertained, in regard to the necessities of the family, but, notwithstanding the protests of the injured parties, the Confederate officers have, in a peremptory manner, taken the property, simply leaving their receipts for the same. This must be stopped. It shall be stopped. It has, in a great measure, estranged many good citizens, who have ever looked upon our army as the protectors of the country, and the conservators of the laws, and not as an armed mob who daily break the very laws they are specially ordered to execute. You should therefore enact a law, punishing by imprisonment in the State Penitentiary, any officer, non-commissioned officer or private or other person, acting or purporting to act under authority from the Confederate States, who shall seize, take, or impress property in this State, contrary to the laws made and provided by Congress. In order that the people may know their rights, and redress their wrongs, five hundred copies of the "impressment act," should be published and distributed among the parochial authorities of the State.

WOUNDED AND DISABLED SOLDIERS.

As yet the Congress of the Confederacy has not passed a "pension act." We have many wounded and disabled soldiers, who have been discharged from the army and are now wandering from Parish to Parish, living upon the charities of the public. It

is our sacred duty to take care of these disabled veterans. They have given to their country health, youth, and boyhood, all but life itself. Many have left their limbs upon the field, and now unable to earn a living for themselves. They are emphatically the children of the State, and must be protected and provided for in this their hour of need.

I recommend that you enact a law giving to each soldier who enlisted from this State, and who has been wounded or disabled in the service of the State or Confederacy, the sum of eleven dollars per month, to be paid every two months. In order to carry out the provisions of this act, a commissioner should be appointed—a bonded officer—whose duty it should be to make a record of all the wounded and disabled soldiers of the State—to draw, upon his own warrant, the several amounts that may be due each one, and remit or pay over the same without any expense to the recipients of this Act.

COTTON CARDS AND MEDICINES.

One million of dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, should be appropriated for the purchase of cotton cards, by a commissioner. And when purchased they should be distributed by him among the ladies of the State for personal use—in order that every white female in Louisiana above the age of eighteen; shall receive a pair of cotton cards free of cost and charges. We have no power looms or spinning machines in the State. The raw material is carded and spun, and warped and woven all by hand. This immense labor is cheerfully performed by our fair countrywomen. Their cards wear out in course of time, and must be replaced. They cost sixty dollars a pair. I appeal to you, gentlemen of the Legislature, as the guardians of the people, to come to the relief of your mothers and sisters, who toil unceasingly to clothe the soldier and the citizen. With grateful hearts they will accept this donation, and it will cheer them on amid all their trials, to more patriotic exertions, if possible, in behalf of our holy cause.

An appropriation of five hundred thousand dollars should be made for the purchase of medicines, by a Commissioner appointed by the Governor—and when purchased, they should be distributed among the practising physicians of the State, who shall, under bonds, be required to administer the same, at cost and charges, to their patients. I am receiving letters continually from the most respectable physicians, informing me that their patients are suffering for medicines. I cannot urge upon you too strongly this appropriation. The physicians ask it—all classes in the community call for it—humanity itself demands it.

JUDICIARY.

Wherever the enemy has not taken possession of our territory, the Courts are reg-

ularly held and justice dispensed to all.—There have been but few conflicts with the military authorities, and whenever they have occurred, I am happy to state that the Courts have been respected, and their decisions cheerfully acquiesced in by the Commanding Generals. In some Parishes of the State, no Courts are held, and crime is frequently committed with impunity. I recommend that you enact a law authorizing the removal of all persons arrested for any crime or misdemeanor, from these Parishes, to any Parish in the State, for trial where the Courts are held regularly.

CURRENCY OF THE STATE.

I recommend that you enact a law that all persons holding the State Treasury Notes shall be permitted, in a given time, to come forward and receive State bonds for the same, payable in twenty years after peace is declared, and drawing six per cent. per annum interest; interest payable annually in Confederate Treasury notes. I further recommend that whenever the State shall require funds to meet its ordinary expenses, or your appropriations, the Executive shall be authorized to cause to be issued the bonds of the State, conditioned as you may prescribe, which bonds shall be negotiated with the authorities of the Confederate Government, or other parties, for their Treasury notes. My object is to withdraw entirely from circulation State notes, and in lieu thereof substitute those of the Confederacy.

I further recommend that all corporations be compelled to call in their issues of notes, and redeem the same within ninety days, and that the Treasurer of the State be required to issue five hundred thousand dollars in change notes, from ten cents up to one dollar. At present the merchants and shop keepers, bakers and butchers, have on hand a large amount of uncurrent Parish paper, and the citizen who takes a journey through the State returns home with his pockets filled with this un-uniform currency. This should not be the case. It can easily be remedied by the passage of the above acts. The change notes can be made redeemable at the Treasurer's office, in Confederate notes, when the sum of ten dollars is presented.

During the continuance of the war, I do not deem it advisable that the State taxes should be collected by compulsory process. Many persons have not the means of paying their taxes, particularly the refugees from home and those who reside in the border Parishes. The Sheriffs will find it difficult in some of the Parishes to give bond, and in the unsettled condition of the country, it will be unsafe to deposit the taxes with irresponsible parties. For this reason the State Treasurer should be authorized and required to receive and receipt for all taxes that may be voluntarily

paid in by any person, who may have been legally assessed.

FREE PERSONS OF COLOR.

I fully endorse most of the recommendations made by the General Assembly by my worthy predecessor; but doubt the propriety of touching the law of the State, giving to free persons of color the privilege of testifying as witnesses in our Courts of justice. They are mostly natives of the State—were raised in our midst—and are entitled to our protection. They are generally a quiet, peaceable and industrious population. Many have acquired wealth and respectability, and are good and loyal citizens in every respect. They have suffered heavily in this war, and in many instances have been made the special objects of brutal treatment by the enemy. I know of no case on record wherein the cause of justice has suffered, or the public has in any manner received detriment, by the observance of these laws. Instead of disturbing them they should be protected in all their legal and constitutional rights, and be required to bear the burthens of this war equally with our fellow-citizens. I therefore recommend that every able-bodied free colored male, in this State, between the ages of fifteen and fifty-five, be enrolled and be subject to the orders of the Executive, to be employed by the State in shops and manufacturing establishments, and to perform such other duties as may be assigned them by the Executive.

INTERNAL RESOURCES.

There never has been a geological survey of the State, and consequently, no one knows its hidden wealth. I am credibly informed that large quantities of lignite, iron, lead, and the sulphates, are to be found in the Northern Parishes. The iron ore is said to be very rich, containing it is reported, sixty per cent. I respectfully call these facts to your attention, and recommend that the Executive be authorized to send competent and experienced persons to examine thoroughly into these matters. If it should be found that we have these valuable minerals in abundance, then the Executive should be clothed with discretionary powers to give to the people their immediate benefit. Our noble sister State, Texas, has done much towards developing her resources. Her Legislature has made the most liberal appropriations, and her citizens are now mining with great success. To her alone, we must look now for all the iron we use. Of all the metals it is the most important. Both the civil and military departments require it in large quantities, and without it our fields cannot be cultivated, nor our armies put in motion. I shall take great pleasure in meeting your joint committees, who may be intrusted with this important subject, and give them much valuable information.

**WHAT DEPRECIATES CONFEDERATE MONEY?
HOW IS THE MATTER TO BE REMEDIED?**

When we reflect and look carefully into this grave subject, we will find that Confederate Treasury notes are not so much depreciated as many seem to think. Confederate money was never intended to be used in foreign countries. It was issued as a currency—a circulating medium for this Confederacy alone—as such, it has answered its purposes, under all the circumstances very well. So long as we have an army of three hundred thousand men to pay, and feed, and clothe, and arm, and equip; so long as every State is a military encampment, and every village a barrack for soldiers—so long as we make war upon the immense scale that we are now compelled to adopt, there must be a very large circulation of some kind of money. This cannot be prevented. Contraction of that circulation at present, will not reduce the price of any one article now most needed in the community. To-day in Louisiana, land and corn are just as cheap as they were before the war. Why? Because there is plenty in the market. Negroes and horses and cattle are about three times as high? Why? Because the market is not so well supplied as heretofore. Nails and axes and cooking utensils are almost worth their weight in gold. Why? Because there are none for sale. If it were possible to reduce the currency to one hundred Confederate dollars in this Department, a pound of nails could not be bought for that sum of money. Why? Because they are not to be had at any price. Let us carry this argument out a little further. A bushel of corn is worth to-day in the market two dollars. It will make one gallon of whiskey, and that gallon of whiskey is worth one hundred dollars! Not because the Confederate money is so bad, but because the bad whiskey is so scarce. A pound of cotton can be purchased for twenty cents; in the same market a yard of calico will bring ten dollars! Not because Confederate money is worthless, for it buys the cotton, but simply because we have no manufactures of cotton cloth in the State. My belief is, that all things considered, we have carried on this great struggle, for three years, very well with Confederate money. I shall not inflict upon you a long essay upon the currency, nor advise that Confederate notes shall or shall not be made a legal tender. This is not the panacea for our troubles. This will not reduce high prices in articles of prime necessity. The only method, in my judgment, to benefit the currency is to follow the example that has been set us by Texas. Encourage manufactures of all kinds. Bend all your energies to the manufacturing of every article needed at home or in the field.

If zeal and activity and sleepless energy will aid you, you shall have my hearty sup-

port. Call into requisition every idle man and woman in the State, who wants work. If necessary take every fifth negro woman, and put her at the loom, and take every fifth negro man and put him into the shop, and, in a few short months, you will find a far different state of things. Ploughs and hoes, and axes, and cooking utensils, shoes and boots, and hats and clothing of every kind will all be as cheap as they were before the war began. Stock the market well with these necessary articles, and then Confederate money will buy as much as gold and silver did in former days.

I am fully aware that too much Confederate money is now in circulation. The taxes will absorb a large amount, and it is hoped that Congress will, at its present session, make provision for a farther curtailment. But whatever action Congress shall take in the premises, let us do our duty. You are the guardians of the currency of this State. Call in every dollar of State money; that will be so much good done in the right direction. Let the currency be uniform. Let there be no invidious comparisons between State and Confederate notes. Then turn your earnest attention to manufactures of every kind.—Start the hammer and the loom. Let the furnace smoke and the anvil ring. Stimulate capitalists to embark in these industrial pursuits at home, for while the blockade stands you cannot get such articles as you now need so much, unless you make them yourselves. If one-half of the capital that has been sent to foreign lands, in running the blockade, had been invested in manufactures at home, our country would be this day in a far better condition. I, therefore, finally recommend that you establish “a Mining and Manufacturing Bureau,” (to which may be attached a Laboratory for preparing indigenous medicines;) and place at its head men of intelligence, of energy, and undoubted honesty. This is a great undertaking; but we are a great people, and should be equal to any emergency. On the field we are the equals of any in the world. Let us learn a lesson from the enemy, and profit by their example. They manufacture everything at home. It is not too late for us to begin. We have immense resources. We can save the currency and the country. We will. It rests with you to say it shall be done.

It is my sincere desire that your deliberations may be harmonious, and that all your actions in behalf of the State of Louisiana shall be guided by wisdom from on High.

HENRY W. ALLEN,

Governor of the State of Louisiana.

Shreveport, La., Jan. 26, 1864,

On motion by Mr. Gantt, ordered that one thousand copies of the message be printed for the use of the Senate.

REPORT FROM A STANDING COMMITTEE.

Mr. Moore, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred Senate bill entitled an act to amend and re-enact an act relative to judicial proceedings against persons in the military or naval service, approved January 21st, 1861; an act to repeal the 97th section of the act entitled an act relative to crimes and offences, approved March 14th, 1855, and an act to repeal an act entitled an act relative to suits or proceedings for the forfeiture of charters of the banks of this State, or the involuntary liquidation thereof, approved January 30th, 1862, submitted a favorable report on each of said bills.

The same Senator from same committee, to whom was referred Senate bill entitled an act to enforce the attendance of witnesses on the summons of either House of the General Assembly, and to compel them to discover testimony, submitted an adverse report, as being the law in existence in part.

The same Senator from the same committee, to whom was referred Senate bill entitled an act to repeal an act relative to suits or proceedings for the forfeiture of charters of banks of this State, or the involuntary liquidation thereof, reported it back to the Senate with the recommendation that it lie on the table as containing the same provisions already reported above on another bill. And the same Senator from the same committee, to whom was referred the report of the Commissioner of Public Lands of this State, reported the same back to the Senate without action, with the recommendation that the same be referred to the Committee on Public Works.

On motion by the same Senator the report of the committee was adopted, and the report was accordingly referred.

BILLS INTRODUCED WITHOUT NOTICE AND REFERRED.

Mr. Texada, without previous notice and with a suspension of the rules first granted, asked and obtained leave to introduce the following entitled bills, which underwent their first and second readings by their respective titles, and both were referred to the Committee on the Militia:

An act to organize a State Guard.

An act to organize the companies of first battalion Louisiana cavalry and first battalion Louisiana State troops.

SPECIAL ORDER OF THE DAY.

This being the day set apart for the consideration of Senate bill entitled an act to change the time of holding court in the Tenth Judicial District—the same was taken up, when on motion by Mr. McDonald, the further consideration of this bill was postponed, and it was ordered to be committed to a select committee, composed of the Senatorial delegation within the

Tenth Judicial District, viz: Messrs. Butler, Clark and Abney.

This being also the day set apart for the consideration of Senate bill entitled an act for the relief of T. B. Thompson; the same was taken up, when on motion by Mr. Wall, the rules were suspended, the bill underwent its second and third readings, it passed, and the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

ORDERS OF THE DAY—2D READINGS.

An act concerning printing for the Legislature and Executive Departments of the State Government.

On motion by Mr. Moore the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its second and third readings and it passed.

On motion by Mr. Weightman, the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

An act to punish Confederate officers and others for impressing private property in violation of law.

On motion by Mr. Gantt the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its second and third readings, it passed, and the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

An act to enforce the attendance of witnesses on the summons of either House of the General Assembly and to compel them to discover testimony, when on the adoption of this bill at its second reading, the same was rejected.

An act to amend and re-enact an act relative to judicial proceedings against persons in the naval and military service, approved December 21st, 1861.

On motion by Mr. Weaks the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its second and third readings, it passed, and the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

An act to repeal the 97th section of an act entitled an act relative to crimes and offences, approved March 14th, 1855.

On motion by Mr. Moore the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its second and third readings, it passed and the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

On motion by the same Senator, the Secretary was further directed to attach to this bill the memorial of the members of the Grand Jury of the parish of Caddo, presented this day to the Senate in relation to the gambling law, an act to repeal an act entitled an act relative to suits or proceedings for the forfeiture of charters of the banks of this State, or the involuntary liquidation thereof, approved January 30th, 1862.

When on motion by Mr. Texada, the further consideration of this bill was postponed, and it was made the special order of the day for Saturday next.

An act to repeal an act relative to suits

or proceedings for the forfeiture of charters of the banks of this State, or the involuntary liquidation thereof.

On motion by Mr. Weightman the report of the committee was adopted and the bill was ordered to lie on the table.

EXECUTIVE SESSION.

On motion by Mr. Lott, the Senate proceeded with closed doors to the consideration of Executive business, and after some time therein spent, the doors were re-opened.

On motion by the same Senator, the Senate adjourned until to-morrow at 11 o'clock A. M.

THURSDAY, JAN. 28, 1864.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

Present—The Hon. Benjamin W. Pearce Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate, in the chair.

Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Coco, Clark, Gantt, Gray, Lott, Moore, Pond, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Weeks and Weightman.

14 Senators.

The proceedings were opened with prayers offered by the Rev. Mr. J. H. Moseley.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

On motion by Mr. Clark, ordered that so much of Governor Allen's message as relates to internal resources, be referred to the joint committee in relation to Iron Foundries.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

Mr. H. M. Favrot, private Secretary of his Excellency, the Governor, delivered to the Senate a sealed Executive communication.

REPORT FROM STANDING COMMITTEE.

Mr. Moore, from the committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred Senate Bills entitled:

"An act to regulate Interest," and

"An act relative to Confederate and State Bonds," submitted a favorable report on each said Bills.

And the same Senator from the same committee to whom was referred Senate Bill entitled:

"An act to require the Supreme Court to hold an annual session in the town of Greensburg, Louisiana, submitted a favorable report by substitute, which was passed to a 2d reading.

Mr. Weightman, from the joint committee on Enrollment, reported to the Senate that the joint committee had this day discharged Mr. J. G. Arnold, one of the Enrolling clerks, on account of inefficiency.

REPORT FROM A SELECT COMMITTEE.

Mr. Weeks, from a select committee appointed by virtue of a resolution to enquire into the cost of publishing daily pro-

ceedings of the Senate, submitted the following report and accompanying resolution:

By virtue of the above resolution, the committee agree to award the printing of the Journals of the Senate to the "Semi-Weekly News," of the city of Shreveport, by and with the consent of the Senate.

Resolved, That the proceedings of the Senate be published in the "Semi-Weekly News," of Shreveport, Louisiana.

On motion by Mr. Clark, the report and resolution were unanimously adopted.

BILLS INTRODUCED WITHOUT NOTICE AND REFERRED.

Mr. Pond, without previous notice and with a suspension of the rules first granted, asked and obtained leave to introduce a bill entitled:

"An act to authorize the Judges of the Fifth and Eighth Judicial District, to hold special courts for the trial of refused cases" which underwent its 1st and 2d reading by its title, and it was ordered to be referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

EXECUTIVE SESSION.

On motion by Mr. Lott, the Senate proceeded, at closed doors, to the consideration of Executive business, and after some time spent therein, the doors were re-opened.

ORDERS OF THE DAY—2D READING.

An act relative to Confederate and State Bonds.

SECTION. 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened, That the holder of any Confederate or State Bond, payable to bearer, shall have the right to restrain its negotiability or transfer by mere delivery, by specially endorsing the same to the order of himself or any other person, and from the time or date of such endorsement, such bond shall be held and considered as the property of the person to whom, or to whose order the same has been so endorsed. Provided, however, that the negotiability of such bond can at any time be restored by the endorsement of the person to whom it had been endorsed, making the same payable to bearer.

SEC. 2. Be it further enacted, &c., That the coupons of such bonds shall follow the ownership of the bond until severed therefrom, but the coupons when severed from the bond shall be held to be the property of the persons in possession of such coupons.

SEC. 3. Be it further enacted, &c., That the holder of any State bond, specially endorsed as provided in the first section of this act, shall have the right of requiring the State Auditor to register in a book to be kept by him for that purpose, the name of the person to whom the bond has been made payable, its denomination, date, num-

ber, maturity, rate of interest, by whom signed and countersigned, and how many coupons yet remain unsevered therefrom. And for such services the Auditor shall have the right to demand and receive the sum of one dollar for the registration of such bond. And should the owner require from him a certificate thereof, he shall have the right of demanding and receiving one dollar for each bond, but in no case, whatever, the number of bonds registered at one time for the same holder, shall the cost of the certificate thereof, be more than five dollars.

SEC. 4. Be it further enacted, &c., That in the event of the loss or destruction of such endorsed, registered State bond in the hands of the owner thereof, or of any agent, attorney in fact or trustee for his benefit, by theft, accident, conflagration, capture by the enemy, or in any another manner, the owner shall have the right on affidavit of himself, his agent, attorney in fact or trustee, as the case may be, of arresting the payment of such lost or destroyed bond, and also the coupons attached thereto and unsevered therefrom at the time of such loss or destruction. And the Treasurer of this State on being served with the affidavit, aforesaid, setting forth a full statement of the facts, shall be prohibited from paying such coupons or bonds to any other persons than he to whom said bond was endorsed, or to his heir or legal assigns.

SEC. 5. Be it further enacted, &c., That this act shall take effect from and after its passage.

On motion by Mr. Reeves, the rules were suspended; this bill underwent its 2d and 3d readings, and on its final passage, Mr. Barrow called for the yeas and nays, they were ordered and being taken, resulted as follows, to-wit:

Yeas—Messrs. Abney, Clark, Coco, Gantt, Gray, Lott, Moore, Pond, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Weaks, and Weightman.—13 Senators.

Nays—Mr. Barrow, 1 Senator.

So the bill passed.

On motion by Mr. Reeves, the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

An act to require the Supreme Court to hold a session in the town of Greensburg, Louisiana.

On motion by Mr. Pond, the rules were suspended; this bill underwent its 2d and 3d readings, it passed, and the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

AN ACT TO REGULATE INTEREST.

SEC. 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened, That the owner of any promissory note, bond, or written obligation for the payment of money to order or bearer, or transferable by assignment, shall have

the right to charge and collect interest at eight per cent. per annum, and no more.

SEC. 2. Be it further enacted, &c., That any person charging more than eight per cent. interest, per annum either by purchase, discount or any other manner, shall forfeit the whole amount of interest so charged.

SEC. 3. Be it further enacted, &c., That all acts contrary to the provisions of this act, are hereby repealed. This act to take effect from and after its passage.

On motion by Mr. Gantt, the rules were suspended; this Bill underwent its 2d and 3d readings and on its final passage the yeas and nays were ordered under the rules and being taken, resulted as follows, to-wit:

Yeas Messrs. Clark, Coco, Gantt, Gray, Lott, Moore, Pond, Reeves, Rogers, Texada and Weightman.

11 Senators.

Nays—Messrs. Abney, Barrow, and Weaks. 3 Senators.

So the bill passed.

On motion by Mr. Gantt, the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

On motion by Mr. Texada, the Senate adjourned until to-morrow, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

FRIDAY, January 29th, 1864.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

Present—The Hon. Benjamin W. Pearce, President of the Senate.

Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Clark, Coco, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Moore, Pond, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Wall, Weaks and Weightman. 16 Senators.

The proceedings were opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. J. W. Mosely.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE.

Mr Isaacson, Clerk of the House of Representatives, informed the Senate that the House had concurred in Senate bills of the following titles, viz: An act for the relief of T. J. Thompson, an act authorizing Recorders to administer oaths, an act to repeal the 97th section of the act entitled an act relative to crimes and offences, approved March 14th, 1855, and an act to repeal the 2d section of an act entitled an act relative to the State Library, approved March 15th, 1845.

And be requested the concurrence of the Senate in House bills of the following titles to-wit:

An act to provide for the printing of the acts passed by the General Assembly at the session held in the town of Opelousas in 1852 and 1863.

An act for the relief of Philo Alden, Sheriff and Tax Collector of the parish of Bossier.

An act for the relief of the children of John Pierre and Hannah Perkins of the parish of Rapides.

An act to amend an act entitled an act amending the act concerning the town of Bastrop, approved March 9th, 1861.

An act to define the qualifications of jurors, and who are exempt from the duties thereof.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

Mr. H. M. Favrot, private Secretary of his Excellency the Governor, delivered to the Senate a sealed executive communication.

REPORT FROM STANDING COMMITTEES.

Mr. Moore, from the committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred Senate bills entitled an act to prevent the enemy from using certain property belonging to citizens of this State in prosecuting the war against them.

An act to prevent the issuing of license to any person who is not a citizen of the Confederate States, and who have taken the oath of allegiance to the United States since the 1st of July, 1862.

An act to regulate the employment of certain persons.

An act to authorize the Judges of the Fifth and Eighth Judicial Districts to hold special Courts for the trial of criminal cases submitted a favorable report on each of said bills.

Mr. Clark, from the Committee on the Military, to whom was referred Senate bill entitled an act to reorganize the companies in 1st battalion Louisiana cavalry and 1st battalion Louisiana State Troops, submitted a favorable report, with the recommendation that the bill pass.

And the same Senator, from the same committee, to whom was referred Senate bill entitled an act to organize the State Guard, submitted a favorable report with amendment, and recommending its passage.

ORDERS OF THE DAY—HOUSE MESSAGE—FIRST READINGS.

An act to provide for the printing of the acts passed by the General Assembly at the session held in the town of Opelousas in 1862 and 1863, which bill underwent its first reading, and it was ordered to a second reading.

An act for the relief of Philo Alden Sheriff and Tax Collector of the parish of Bossier.

On motion by Mr. Gantt, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its first and second readings by its title, and it was ordered to be referred to the Committee on Finance.

An act for the relief of the children of John Price and Hannah Perkins, of the parish of Rapides, which bill underwent its first reading, and on motion by Mr. Texada, it was rejected.

An act to amend an act entitled an act amending the act incorporating the town of Bastrop, approved March 9th, 1861, which bill underwent its first reading and it was ordered to a second reading.

An act to define the qualification of jurors, and who are exempt from the duties thereof.

On motion by Mr. Lott the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its first and second readings by its title, and it was ordered to be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SENATE BILLS PASSED.

On motion by Mr. Moore the rules were suspended, and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of Senate bill entitled an act to prevent the enemy from using certain property belonging to citizens of this State in prosecuting the war against them.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened, That the Governor of the State be and he is hereby authorized and required whenever in his opinion, at any time during the existing war, the public welfare and safety of the country require it, to remove or cause to be removed, from any section of the State in imminent danger of being occupied by the enemy, every species of property, both public and private, which, if in possession of the enemy, would certainly assist him in prosecuting the war.

On motion by Mr. McDonald, the first section was amended by striking out therefrom the words "and required," and the first section was adopted as amended.

Sec. 2d. Be it further enacted, &c., That whenever the Governor shall receive reliable information that the enemy are about to occupy any particular section or locality of the State, he shall issue his proclamation, directed to the citizens of such section or locality, declaring what species of property they shall remove, as owner or agent, and in what time the same shall be done; and if not removed in the time specified, it shall be his duty to employ the military force of the State, when adequate and practicable, otherwise to require the Military Commander of this Department to furnish him a sufficient force to make such removal.

On motion by Mr. McDonald, the second section was amended by striking out therefrom in the second line the word "shall," and inserting in lieu thereof the word "may," and the second section was adopted as amended.

Sec. 3d. Be it further enacted, &c., That any person or persons owning or having in their possession any species of property which the Governor, by his proclamation, has declared should be removed, should willfully hide or conceal the same to prevent its removal, according to the provisions of this act, or having moved it, should

afterwards move it back again, without a special proclamation of the Governor authorizing the same, he, she or they shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, for which he, she or they, as the case may be, shall be arrested, tried, and if found guilty, imprisoned not less than three nor more than twelve months.

On motion by Mr. Lott, the 3d section was adopted.

Sec. 4. Be it further enacted, &c., That whenever it shall become necessary for the Governor to employ military force to execute the provisions of this act, he shall cause the property, so removed, to be delivered to its proper owner or agent, immediately in the rear of the nearest military line, State or Confederate.

On motion by Mr. Lott, the 4th section was adopted.

Sec. 5. Be it further enacted, &c., That whenever the enemy shall cease to occupy permanently any district or section of the State, from which certain species of property have been removed, under the provisions of this act, it shall be the duty of the Governor to issue his proclamation declaring the fact, and that the provisions of this act are no longer applicable to said district or section. Provided always, that in the execution of this act it shall not be lawful for any officer or soldier in the service of the State or Confederate States, to enter into the dwelling house of any free person or persons, and take therefrom anything properly appertaining and belonging thereto without the consent and approval of the owner or agent; nor take from the premises any more provisions than will be necessary to subsist such stock and negroes as may be taken from the same place, whilst it is being conveyed to the rear of the nearest military line.

On motion by Mr. Lott the 3d section was adopted.

Sec. 6. Be it further enacted, &c., That all laws or parts of laws conflicting with the provisions of this act shall be suspended during the time and for the districts, sections or localities in which it may be in force and effect.

On motion by Mr. Lott the 5th section was adopted.

On motion by the same Senator the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its second and third readings, and on its final passage Mr. Pond called for the yeas and nays; they were ordered, and being taken resulted as follows, to-wit:

Yeas—Messrs. Abney, Clark, Coco, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Moore, Reeves and Texada. 10 Senators.

Nays—Messrs. Pond, Wall, Weeks and Weightman—4 Senators.

On their respective motions Messrs. Barrow and Rogers were excused from voting. So the bill passed, and on the adoption of its title, on motion by Mr. Moore the

following was substituted for the original title, to-wit:

An act to authorize the Governor, in certain contingencies, to remove property of citizens of this State beyond the reach of the enemy.

On motion by Mr. Lott the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

On motion by Mr. Texada the rules were suspended and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of Senate bill entitled an act to organize the State Guard.

The 1st, 2d and 3d sections were read and adopted.

Sec. 4. Be it further enacted, &c., That the army regulations and articles of war of the Confederate States be and are hereby adopted for the government of said regiment.

Mr. Weightman offered the following as a substitute in lieu of the original section, which is as follows viz:

Sec. 4. Be it further enacted, &c., That the Governor be authorized to establish rules and regulations for the government of said regiment.

On motion by Mr. Texada, Mr. Weightman's substitute was adopted as the 4th section of the bill.

Sections 5th and 6th were read and adopted.

On motion by Mr. Texada the following was adopted as the 7th section of the bill, to-wit:

Be it further enacted, &c., That this act shall take effect from and after its passage.

On motion by the same Senator, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its second and third readings, and on motion by Mr. Lott the rules were further suspended, the bill passed and the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

On motion by Mr. Texada the rules were suspended and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of Senate bill entitled an act to organize the companies in the 1st battalion Louisiana cavalry and 1st battalion Louisiana State troops.

The 1st and 3d sections were read and adopted.

On motion by the same Senator the following was adopted as the 3d section of the bill:

Sec. 3. Be it further enacted, &c., That this act shall take effect from and after its passage.

On motion by the same Senator the rules were suspended, the bill underwent its second and third readings and on motion by Mr. Moore, the rules were further suspended and the bill passed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION.

On motion by Mr. Abney, the Senate proceeded with closed doors to the consideration of Executive business, and after some

time spent therein the doors were re-opened, Mr. Lewis Texada in the chair.

On motion by Mr. Moore, the Senate adjourned until to-morrow at 11 o'clock, A. M.

SATURDAY, January 30th, 1864.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

Present, the Hon. Benjamin W. Pearce, Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.

Messrs. Barrow, Butler, Coco, Clark, Gantt, Gray, Scott, Moore, Pond, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Wall, Weaks and Weightman.

15 Senators.

The proceedings were opened with prayers by Rev. Henry M. Smith, Post Chaplain.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

Mr. H. M. Favrot, private Secretary of his Excellency the Governor, delivered to the Senate a sealed Executive communication.

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES.

Mr. Moore, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred House bill entitled an act to define the qualification of jurors, and who are exempt from duties thereof, submitted a favorable report.

Mr. Weightman, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled Senate bills of the following titles, to-wit:

An act for the relief of T. B. Thompson an act authorizing Recorders to administer oaths, an act to repeal the 2d section of an act entitled an act relative to the State Library, approved March 15th, 1855, and an act to repeal the 97th section of an act entitled an act relative to crimes and offences, approved March 14th, 1855.

And the same Senator, on behalf of the same committee, informed the Senate that Messrs. A. H. Leonard and John W. Mahle had been appointed enrolling clerks for this session, and that they had been sworn in the House of Representatives.

COMMUNICATION.

The President laid before the Senate a communication from his Excellency the Governor, transmitting the annual report of the Board of Administrators of the Insane Asylum at Jackson, Louisiana, when on motion by Mr. Gantt, the reading of the same was dispensed with and it was ordered to be referred to the Committee on Finance.

BILLS INTRODUCED WITHOUT NOTICE AND REFERRED.

The hereinafter named Senators, without previous notice given, and with a suspension of the rules first granted, asked and obtained leave to introduce the following

entitled bills, which underwent their first and second readings by their respective titles, and they were respectively referred as indicated below, to-wit:

Mr. Clark—

An act to authorize the Treasurer to pay to the branch of the Citizens' Bank certain sums due by the State to the Citizens' bank.

Mr. Lott—

An act to prohibit the seizing, taking or removing of property in the State contrary to law.

Mr. Butler,

An act to provide tribunals for the trial of negroes.

An act to prohibit negroes from testifying for or against white persons, which bills were severally referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Moore,

An act to confirm certain claims to land commonly called "Rio Hondo" claim, which was referred to the Committee on Public Works.

Mr. Weightman,

An act to regulate payments from the State Treasury, which was referred to the Committee on Finance.

SPECIAL ORDER OF THE DAY.

This being the day set apart for the consideration of Senate bill entitled an act to repeal an act entitled an act relative to suits or proceedings for the forfeiture of charters of the banks of this State, or the involuntary liquidation thereof, approved January 20th, 1862, the same was taken up.

Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened, That an act, No. 69, entitled an act relative to suits or proceedings for the forfeiture of charters of the banks of this State, or the involuntary liquidation thereof, approved January 20th, 1862, be and the same is hereby repealed.

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, &c., That this act shall take effect from and after its passage, which bill underwent its second reading, and on its adoption at its third reading, Mr. Texada called for the yeas and nays; they were ordered and being taken resulted as follows, to-wit:

Yeas—Messrs. Gantt, Moore and Weightman—3 Senators.

Nays—Messrs. Barrow, Butler, Clark, Coco, Gray, Lott, Pond, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Wall and Weaks—12 Senators.

So the bill was rejected.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE.

Mr. Isaacson, Clerk of the House of Representatives, requested the concurrence of the Senate in House bills and joint resolutions of the following titles, to-wit:

An act for the relief of C. L. Marvor.

An act for the relief of Thomas H. Pitts of the parish of Caddo.

An act for the relief of John Hewitt, Assessor of Rapides parish.

An act to amend the first section of an act entitled an act prescribing an additional oath for electors in certain cases, approved June 27th, 1863.

An act to amend the first section of an act entitled an act prescribing an additional oath for Commissioners of Elections, approved June 16th, 1863.

An act to provide for the confinement of persons convicted of crimes punishable with hard labor and confinement.

And joint resolution instructing the Auditor of Public Accounts and Treasurer to retain in their hands the public stocks pledged for the redemption of the notes issued to the free banks of New Orleans.

EXECUTIVE SESSION.

On motion by Mr. Texada, the Senate proceeded with closed doors to the consideration of Executive business, and after some time spent therein, the doors were re-opened.

On motion by the same Senator, the Senate adjourned until Monday next at 11 o'clock, A. M.

MONDAY, February 1st, 1864.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

Present. Mr. John Moore, President pro tem. of the Senate, Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Butler, Clark, Coco, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Pond Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Wall, Weeks and Weightman—17 Senators.

The proceedings were opened with prayers by the Rev. W. W. H. Smith, Post Chaplain.

The journal of last Saturday was read and approved.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATION.

The President pro tem. laid before the Senate a communication from his Excellency the Governor, transmitting the annual report of the State Treasurer, the reading of which was dispensed with on motion by Mr. Gantt, and it was ordered to be referred to be referred to the Committee on Finance.

MESSAGE TO THE HOUSE.

The Secretary requested the signature of the Speaker of the House to Senate enrolled bills of the following titles, to-wit:

An act for the relief of T. B. Thompson, an act authorizing Recorders to administer oaths, an act to repeal the 97th section of the act entitled an act relative to crimes and offences, approved March 14th 1855, and an act to repeal the second section of an act entitled an act relative to the State Library, approved March 15th, 1855.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE.

Mr. Isaacson, Clerk of the House of Representatives, requested the concurrence of

the Senate in House bills of the following titles, to-wit:

An act to amend an act entitled an act relative to judicial proceedings against persons in the military or naval service, approved 21st December, 1861, an act conferring additional powers on the Clerks of the District Courts generally, an act to authorize Lewis Phillips and his wife Harriet Phillips to adopt Lewis Oscar Phillips, a minor, joint resolution relative to the further prosecution of the war.

REPORT FROM STANDING COMMITTEE.

Mr. Texada, from the Committee on Finance, to whom was referred Senate bill entitled an act to regulate payments from the State Treasury, and House bill entitled an act for the relief of Philo Alden, Sheriff and Tax Collector of the parish of Bossier, submitted a favorable report on each of said bills.

And the same Senator from the same committee, to whom was referred Senate's resolution instructing the committee to inquire into the propriety of abolishing the office of State Engineer, reported a bill entitled an act abolish the office of State Engineer, which was passed to second reading.

Mr. Weightman, from the Committee on Public works, to whom was referred Senate bill entitled an act to confirm certain claims, to land commonly called "Rio Hondo," submitted a favorable report.

And the same Senator from the same committee, submitted the following resolution, which was considered by unanimous consent of the Senate and adopted:

Resolved, That 250 copies of the report of the Commissioner of the General Land Office be printed, 200 copies for the use of the Commissioner, Mr. Lewis Texada in the chair.

Mr. Moore, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred Senate bill entitled an act to prohibit the seizure, taking or removing of property in the State contrary to law, submitted a favorable report on amendments.

The same Senator from the same committee, to whom was referred Senate bill entitled an act to abolish the offices in the different land offices in this State until twelve months after the existing war, an act to prohibit negroes from testifying for or against white persons, an act to provide tribunals for the trial of free negroes, submitting adverse reports on each said bills.

BILLS INTRODUCED WITHOUT NOTICE AND LAID OVER.

And the same Senator, without previous notice and with suspension of the rules first granted, asked and obtained leave, to introduce a bill entitled an act to amend and re-enact joint resolution relative to the withdrawal from public sale or private entry or location all the public lands of this State

approved June 18th, 1863, which underwent its first reading, and was ordered to a second reading.

Mr. John Moore in the chair.

REPORT FROM A SELECT COMMITTEE.

Mr. McDonald, from the joint select committee of both Houses appointed to examine the books, accounts and voucher of the State Treasurer and Auditor of Public Accounts, submitted following report:

The joint committee appointed by the General Assembly at the annual session of 1864 to examine the books and vouchers of Treasurer's and Auditor's office, beg leave to report that they have carefully discharged the duties required of them, and find the same correct.

They also carefully examined and counted the Confederate notes and notes of the State issued under the act of 1862, No. 116, and the following amounts were found on hand:

Confederate notes	\$1,069,345 00
Confederate bonds,	27,850 00
State notes, act 1862,	256,026 00
	<hr/>
	\$1,353,221 00

Of the Confederate notes \$162,000 00 consist of interest paying notes, upon which the interest is yet due; of the State issue there is \$98,360 00 of change notes. The committee recommend that the Treasurer be directed to convert the interest paying notes and the Confederate bonds into the ordinary currency of the Confederate States and further that he be instructed to pay out upon all warrants issued after this date Confederate notes, and the notes issued by the State under act No. 116, of 1862, the latter in such proportion only as will give a general distribution of change until the amount now on hand is exhausted and for any excess that may be required to meet the demand upon the Treasury for the current fiscal year, they recommend that 6 per cent. bonds of the State having not less than twenty years to run, be issued and sold for Confederate or State currency, and thus prevent any further issue of State notes in excess of the amount already in circulation. The committee further report that they destroyed by fire in the Auditor's office six hundred and thirty coupons of interest for \$30 each, amounting to eighteen thousand nine hundred dollars, representing vouchers No. 561 of said office, for which they gave the Auditor a certificate.

[Signed] J. W. McDONALD,
Chairman Senate Committee.

THOS. C. ANDERSON,
Acting Chairman of House Com.

BILL INTRODUCED ACCORDING TO NOTICE AND PASSED.

The hereinafter named Senators, without previous notice given and with a suspension of the rules first granted, asked and obtained leave to introduce the following

entitled bills, which underwent their first second readings by their respective titles, and they were severally referred as indicated below, to-wit:

Mr. McDonald,

An act to amend and re-enact an act entitled an act to suspend all existing prescriptions, approved 10th of June, 1863, which was referred to the committee of the Whole.

Mr. Wall.

An act for the relief of John J. Wheat, Sheriff of the parish of St. Helena; referred to the Committee on Claims.

BILLS INTRODUCED WITHOUT NOTICE AND PASSED.

Mr. Butler, without previous notice and with a suspension of the rules first granted, asked and obtained leave to introduce a bill entitled an act to change time of holding Courts in the parish of Caddo, Tenth Judicial District, as a substitute for Senate bill entitled an act to change the time of holding Courts in the Tenth Judicial District Court, which substitute underwent its several readings and it passed, and on a further motion by the same Senator the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

Mr. H. M. Favrot, Private Secretary of his Excellency the Governor, delivered to the Senate a sealed Executive communication.

ORDERS OF THE DAY—HOUSE MESSAGE—FIRST READINGS.

An act to amend the first section of an act entitled an act prescribing an additional oath for Commissioners of Elections, approved June 16th, 1863.

On motion by Mr. Lott, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its first and second readings, and it was ordered to be referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

An act for the relief of Thomas H. Pitts, of the parish of Caddo.

On motion by Mr. Gantt, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its first and second readings by its title, and it was ordered to be referred to the Committee on Public Works.

An act to amend the first section of an additional oath for Electors in certain cases approved June 17th, 1863.

On motion by Mr. Reeves, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its first and second readings, and it was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

An act for the relief of John Hewitt, late Assessor of Rapides parish.

On motion by Mr. McDonald, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its first and second readings, and it was ordered to be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

An act conferring additional powers on the Clerks of the District Courts generally.

On motion by Mr. Lott, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its first and second readings, and it was ordered to be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

An act for the relief of C. L. Mavor.

On motion by Mr. Reeves the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its first and second readings, and it was ordered to be referred to the committee on Claims.

An act to provide for the confinement of persons convicted of crimes, punishable with hard labor and confinement.

On motion by Mr. Lott the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its first and second readings, and it was ordered to be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Joint resolutions in relation to the further prosecution of the war.

On motion by Mr. Texada the rules were suspended, these joint resolutions underwent their first and second readings by their title, and they were ordered to be referred to the committee on Confederate Relations.

An act to authorize Lewis Phillips and his wife Harriet Phillips to adopt Lewis Oscar Phillips, a minor.

On motion by Mr. Clark the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its first and second readings, and it was ordered to be referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

An act to amend an act entitled an act relative to judicial proceedings against persons in the military or naval service, approved 21st December, 1861.

On motion by Mr. Lott the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its first and second readings and it was ordered to be referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

Joint resolution instructing the Auditor of Public Accounts and State Treasurer to retain in their hands the public stocks pledged for the redemption of the notes issued to the free banks of New Orleans.

On motion by Mr. McDonald the rules were suspended, this joint resolution underwent its first and second readings, and it was ordered to be referred to the committee of the Whole.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.

On motion by Mr. McDonald, the Senate resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the last above entitled joint resolution. After some time spent therein, on motion by Mr. Gantt the committee rose, and the President reported the bill favorably.

On motion by Mr. Texada the rules were suspended and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the above joint resolution, which reads as follows, to-wit:

Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened. That the Auditor of Public Accounts and Treasurer of the State be and they are hereby instructed not to deliver to any agent or agents of the free banks in the city of New Orleans

any of the bonds or other securities which have been pledged for the redemption of the notes which have been issued to said banks for circulation.

Mr. Texada moved the indefinite postponement of the same, and upon that motion he called for the yeas and nays; they were ordered, and being taken, resulted as follows, viz:

Yeas—Messrs. Abney, McDonald, Pond, Reeves, Texada, Wall, and Weak. 7 Senators.

Nays—Messrs. Barrow, Butler, Clark, Coco, Gantt, Gray, Lott, Moore, Rogers, and Weightman. 10 Senators.

So Mr. Texada's motion did not prevail.

On motion by Mr. Lott the rules were suspended, this joint resolution underwent its second and third readings, was concurred in and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

EXECUTIVE SESSION.

On motion by Mr. Texada the Senate proceeded, at closed doors, to the consideration of Executive business, and after some time spent therein, the doors were re-opened.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE.

Mr. Isaacson, Clerk of the House of Representatives, informed the Senate that the Speaker had signed Senate enrolled bills of the following titles, to-wit:

An act to repeal the second section of an act entitled an act relative to the State Library, approved March 15th, 1855.

An act authorizing Recorders to administer oaths.

An act for the relief of T. B. Thompson.

An act to repeal the 97th section of the act entitled an act relative to crimes and offences, approved March 14th, 1855.

Which bills received the signature of the President pro tem, and were by Mr. Weightman, on behalf of the committee on Enrollment, submitted to his Excellency the Governor, for his approval and signature.

By the same message the signature of the President was requested to House enrolled joint resolution instructing the Auditor of Public Accounts and Treasurer to retain in their hands the public stocks pledged for the redemption of the notes issued by the free banks of New Orleans.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

Mr. H. M. Favrot, private Secretary of his Excellency the Governor, informed the Senate that the Governor had, this day, approved and signed the following Senate bills, to-wit:

An act authorizing Recorders to administer oaths, an act for the relief of T. B. Thompson, and an act to repeal the 97th section of an act relative to crimes and offences, approved March 14th, 1855.

And he submitted the following veto message, to-wit:

Executive Office.
Shreveport, La., Feb. 1st, 1864.
To the Honorable the President
and Members of the Senate:

I have the honor to return to your honorable body an act entitled an act to repeal the 2d section of an act entitled an act relative to the State Library, approved March 15th, 1855, for the following reasons, to-wit:

That it is passed contrary to the provisions of Article 116 of the Constitution, which requires that "no law shall be revised or amended by reference to its title; but in such case the act revised or section amended shall be re-enacted and published at length.

Very respectfully, your ob'dt. serv't.,

HENRY W. ALLEN,

Governor State of Louisiana.

Which veto message was ordered to lie over.

SECOND READINGS.

An act to prevent the issuing of license to any person who is not a citizen of the Confederate States, or who have taken the oath of allegiance to the United States since the 21st of January, 1861.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened, That it shall be unlawful from and after the passage of this act for any license to issue or be granted by the State of Louisiana or any incorporated city or town, or any parish within the State to any person or persons who is not a citizen of the Confederate States or of the State of Louisiana.

Mr. Pond offered the following proviso, to-wit: provided that nothing in this act shall apply to the citizens of any foreign Government other than the United States. On a division of the vote Mr. Pond's proviso was rejected.

Pending the consideration of the first section, on motion by Mr. Weightman, this bill was ordered to be recommitted to the committee on the Judiciary.

An act to prohibit the seizing, taking or removing of property in the State contrary to law.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened, That it shall not be lawful for any officer or soldier in the service of the State or Confederate States who shall seize, take or remove any species of property in this State under any pretence whatever, without the consent and approval of the owner or agent, unless duly authorized and directed by the Governor in such manner and in such cases as are provided for by the laws of this State, and every person so offending shall be deemed guilty of a felony, for which he, she or they, as the case may be, shall be arrested, tried, and if found guilty, confined in the State Penitentiary

not less than one nor more than three years.

The amendment of the Judiciary committee being to strike out in the third line the words "it shall not be lawful for," and in the 11th line the words "and every person so offending."

On motion, the above amendment was adopted.

On motion by Mr. McDonald the 1st section was further amended by inserting in the 11th line, after the word "arrested" the following words, to-wit: "and at any time within twelve months after the ratification of a treaty of peace between the Confederate States and the United States."

And the 1st section was adopted as amended.

The following section, reported by the Committee, was adopted as the 2d section of the bill.

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, That any person so offending may be arrested and tried in any parish of this State under the jurisdiction of the State and where Courts are held.

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, &c. That nothing in this act shall be so construed to incriminate any person or persons whilst lawfully executing the Confederate law, commonly known as the impressment act.

On motion by Mr. McDonald, the 2d section was amended by adding at the end thereof the following words, to-wit: "or any other law of the Confederate Congress."

And the 2d section as amended was adopted as the 3d section of the bill.

The 3d section was read and adopted as the 4th section of the bill.

On motion by Mr. Texada the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its second and third readings, and it passed.

On motion by Mr. Butler, the Senate adjourned until to-morrow at 11 o'clock A. M.

TUESDAY, February 2, 1864.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

Present—The Mr. John Moore, President of the Senate.

Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Clark, Coco, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Pond, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Wall, Weaks, Weightman and Barrow.

17 Senators.

The proceedings were opened with prayer offered by Rev. Mr. J. W. Mosley.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

On motion by Mr. Clark, leave of absence was granted to Mr. J. W. Buller, Senator from Natchitoches, on account of sickness.

On motion by Mr. Barrow, ordered that 250 copies of the Impressment Act of the

Congress of the Confederate States be printed for the use of the Senate.

MESSAGE TO THE HOUSE.

The Secretary requested the concurrence of the House in Senate bill entitled :

An act to prohibit the seizing, taking or removing of property in the State contrary to law.

And he informed the House that the President pro tem of the Senate had signed House enrolled joint resolution instructing the Auditor of Public Accounts and State Treasurer to retain in their hands the public stocks pledged for the redemption of the notes issued to the free banks of New Orleans.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE.

Mr. Isaacson, Clerk of the House of Representatives, requested the concurrence of the Senate on House joint resolutions, of the following titles, to-wit :

Joint resolution for the adjournment of the Legislature.

Joint resolution authorizing the printing of the Senate and House journal ; and that the Speaker had appointed Messrs. Morehead, Jewell, Snyder of Bossier, Gilmore and Mayo, the committee on the part of the House, and joint resolution to authorize the Government to take measures to prevent illegal impressment by Confederate authorities.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

Mr. H. M. Favrot, private Secretary of his Excellency the Governor, delivered to the Senate several sealed Executive communications.

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES.

Mr. Lott, from the Committee on Claims, to whom was referred House bill entitled an act for the relief of C. L. Mavor, submitted a favorable report.

And the same Senator from the same committee, to whom was referred Senate bill entitled an act for the relief of John J. Wheat, Sheriff of the parish of St. Helena, submitted a favorable report with amendment.

Mr. Lewis Texada in the chair.

Mr. Moore, from the committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred House bill entitled an act to authorize Lewis Phillips and his wife Harriet Phillips to adopt Lewis Oscar Phillips, a minor.

An act conferring additional powers on the Clerks of the District Courts generally, and an act to amend an act entitled an act relative to judicial proceedings against persons in the military or naval service, approved 21st December, 1851, submitted a favorable report on each of said bills.

The same Senator from the same committee, to whom was referred House bill entitled an act to provide for the confinement of persons convicted of crimes punishable with hard labor and confinement, submitted a favorable report with amendment.

And the same Senator from the same committee, to whom was referred House bills entitled an act to amend the first section of an act entitled an act prescribing an additional oath for Electors in certain cases, approved June 17th, 1862.

And an act to amend the first section of an act entitled an act prescribing an additional oath for Commissioners of Elections, approved June 16th, 1863, submitted an adverse report on each of said bills.

Mr. John Moore resumed the chair.

REPORT FROM SELECT COMMITTEES.

Mr. Weightman, from the Select Committee, appointed to examine the accounts of the Commissioners appointed by his Excellency T. O. Moore, ex-Governor to distribute relief to the citizens of New Orleans, submitted the following report, to-wit :

The committee to whom was referred report of the Commissioners appointed by Governor under act No. 24 entitled an act entitled appropriate \$300,000 for the relief of destitute citizens and families lately expelled by the Federal authorities from New Orleans and vicinity, beg leave to report that they have had said report and accompanying paper under consideration, and found everything correct and proper, and recommend that 250 copies of the Commander's report of the Secretary of the Louisiana Relief Association and the report of Dr. Fenner relative to hospitals be published together, 200 copies for the use of the Senate and fifty for the Commissioners.

(Signed,) T. H. WEIGHTMAN,
Chairman.

On motion by Mr. McDonald, all that part of the report in relation to printing was stricken out, and the report as amended was adopted.

BILLS INTRODUCED WITHOUT NOTICE AND REFERRED.

The hereinafter named Senators, without previous notice granted, asked and obtained leave to introduce the following entitled bills, which underwent their first and second readings by their respective titles, and they were severally referred as indicated below, to-wit :

Mr. Coco.

An act to provide for the payment and hire of property other than slaves pressed into the service of the State or Confederate States, which was referred to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. Barrow.

Joint resolution relative to illegal acts of speculations by officers of the Confederate States army, which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Texada,

An act for the relief of R. L. Fox, which was referred to the Committee on claims.

SENATE BILLS INTRODUCED AND PASSED.

Mr. Weightman, without previous notice and with a suspension of the rules first granted, asked and obtained leave to introduce a bill entitled an act to regulate the printing and distribution of the laws during the present war, which underwent its several readings, it passed, and the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

Mr. McDonald, without previous notice and with a suspension of the rules first granted, asked and obtained leave to introduce a joint resolution entitled joint resolution to cancel the bond of the Auditor of Public Accounts which underwent its several readings, it was adopted, and the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

Mr. Wall, without previous notice and with a suspension of the rules first granted, asked and obtained leave to introduce a bill entitled an act to authorize the Governor to appoint a Commissioner to carry the money due the soldiers' families of the parish of Livingston, to said parish," which underwent its several readings, it passed, and the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

EXECUTIVE SESSION.

On motion by Mr. Reeves the Senate proceeded with closed doors, to the consideration of Executive business, and after some time therein spent, the doors were re-opened.

ORDERS OF THE DAY—HOUSE MESSAGE—1ST READINGS.

Joint resolution authorizing the printing of the Senate and the House journals, which underwent its first reading and it was ordered to a second reading.

Joint resolution to authorize the Governor to take measures to prevent illegal imprisonment of Confederate authorities.

On motion by Mr. Barrow, the rules were suspended, this joint resolution underwent its first and second readings, and it was ordered to be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SECOND READINGS.

An act to abolish the offices in the different land offices in this State until twelve months after the existing war.

On motion by Mr. McDonald, the report of the committee was adopted and the bill was rejected.

An act to authorize the Judges of the 5th and 6th Judicial District to hold special Courts for the trial of criminal causes.

On motion by Mr. Pond, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its second and third readings, it passed and the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

An act for the relief of Philo Alden, Sheriff and Tax Collector of the parish of Bossier.

On motion by Mr. Abney, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its second and third readings, it was concurred in and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

An act to amend an act entitled an act amending the act concerning the town of Bastrop, approved March 9th, 1861.

On motion by Mr. Weaks, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its second and third readings, it was concurred in, and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

An act to define the qualifications of jurors, and who are exempt from the duties thereof.

On motion by Mr. Clark, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its second and third readings, it was concurred in and the Secretary directed to inform the House thereof.

An act to provide for the printing of the act passed by the General Assembly at the session held in the town of Opelousas in 1862 and 1863.

Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened, That the Secretary of State be and he is hereby authorized to have published in the manner required by law 500 copies of the acts passed by the Legislature at the session held in the town of Opelousas in 1862 and in 1863.

Mr. Weightman moved to amend the 1st section by striking out in the 5th line of the first section the words, "in the manner required by law," and insert at the end of the section the words "said publication to be made in the English language only," and the copies to be distributed according to law, as far as practicable.

On motion by Mr. Lott, Mr. Weightman's amendment was adopted, and, the first section was adopted as amended.

Sec. 2, Be it further enacted, &c., That the sum of ten thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary be and the same is hereby appropriated out of any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to meet the expense of the publication ordered in the first section, said sum to be payable in the warrant of the Auditor of Public Accounts.

On motion by Mr. McDonald the second section was amended by striking out in the second line the words "ten thousand dollars," and inserting in lieu thereof "five thousand dollars," and on motion by the same Senator the same section was further amended by inserting in the 5th line, after the word "publication" the words "and distribution."

And the 2d section was adopted as amended.

On motion by Mr. Lott, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its second and third readings, and it was concurred in

as amended, and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

An act to provide tribunals for the trial of free negroes.

On motion by Mr. Texada the report on this bill from the committee on the Judiciary was adopted and the bill was rejected.

An act to prohibit negroes from testifying for or against white persons.

On motion by Mr. Reeves the report on this bill from the Committee on the Judiciary was adopted and the bill was rejected.

An act for the relief of J. J. Wheat Sheriff of the parish of St. Helena.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened, That the Auditor be authorized to allow to J. J. Wheat, Sheriff of the parish of St. Helena, his commissions on the taxes collected by him in the year 1860, and after the said Sheriff shall pay over the amount of taxes due the State, the Auditor be authorized to allow him his quietus.

On motion of Wall the first section was amended by adopting the amendment proposed by the Committee on the Judiciary, which is to insert after "1860," in the 5th line, "and on trades and professions of 186L

And the 1st section was adopted as amended.

The second section was read and adopted.

On motion by the same Senator, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its 2d and 3d readings, it passed and the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

An act to confirm certain claims to land commonly called "Rio Hondo" claims.

On motion of Mr. Clark, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its second and third readings, it passed, and the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

EXECUTIVE SESSION.

On motion by Mr. McDonald, the Senate proceeded, with closed doors, to the consideration of Executive business, and after some time spent therein, the doors were re-opened.

VETO MESSAGE.

On motion by Mr. Texada the rules were suspended and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the veto message of his Excellency Henry W. Allen, Governor of the State, returning to the Senate, with his objections, a bill entitled an act to repeal the second section of an act entitled an act relative to the State Library, approved March 15th, 1855, which veto message had been ordered to lie over from yesterday.

The Senate proceeded to the reconsideration of the bill, the question being, "shall the bill pass, notwithstanding the veto of the Governor?"

The yeas and nays were ordered, and being taken, resulted as follows, to-wit:

Yeas—Messrs. Barrow and Weightman—2 Senators.

Nays—Messrs. Abney, Clark, Coco, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Moore, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Wall and Weak—13 Senators.

So two-thirds of the Senators present not voting in the affirmative, the bill did not become a law.

2D READING—RESUMED.

An act to regulate payments from the State Treasury.

On motion by Mr. Weightman the rules were suspended, and this bill underwent its second reading.

The first section was read and adopted.

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, &c.. That the Treasurer shall pay out no State Treasury notes of a greater denomination than five dollars unless specially directed so to do by the act making the appropriation.

On motion by Mr. McDonald the second section was stricken out.

The 3d section was read and adopted as the 2d section of this bill.

On motion by Mr. Weightman the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its second and third readings, it passed, and the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

On motion by Mr. McDonald, the Senate resolved itself into a committee of the Whole, Mr. Lewis Texada was called to the chair.

The Senate in committee of the Whole proceeded to the consideration of an act to amend and re-enact an act entitled an act to suspend all existing prescriptions, approved 10th June, 1863.

After some time the committee rose, Mr. John Moore in the chair.

Mr. Texada, chairman, reported that the Senate, in committee of the Whole, has had the above bill under consideration, and beg leave to report the same favorably.

On motion by Mr. McDonald, the further consideration of this bill was postponed, and it was ordered to be made the special order of the day for to-morrow.

On motion by Mr. Weightman the Senate adjourned until to-morrow at 11 o'clock, A. M.

WEDNESDAY, February 3d, 1864.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

Present, Mr. John Moore. President pro tem. of the Senate, Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Clark, Coco, Fuller, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Pond Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Wall, Weaks and Weightman—17 Senators.

The proceedings were opened with prayers by the Rev. W. W. H. Smith, Post Chaplain.

The journal of last Saturday was read and approved.

On motion by Mr. McDonald the oath of office was administered by the President pro tem. to Mr. Jesse F. Fuller, Senator from the District comprised of the parishes of Union and Jackson.

MEMORIAL.

The President pro tem submitted to the Senate a memorial on his own behalf, authorizing him to remove from the State certain slaves belonging to the late Captain Mavor and mortgaged to the Bank of Louisiana, which was ordered to be referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

COMMUNICATION.

The President laid before the Senate a communication from his Excellency the Governor, transmitting the annual report of the Superintendent of the Louisiana State Seminary of Learning, which on motion by Mr. Gantt, was ordered to be referred to the committee on Public Education.

Mr. Moore, President pro tem, asked for leave of absence, which was granted, and he requested that Mr. Clark preside over the Senate during his absence and that of the President, which was also acceded to.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE.

Mr. Halsey, Assistant Clerk of the House requested the signature of the President of the Senate to House enrolled bills of the following titles, to-wit :

An act for the relief of Philo Alden, Sheriff and Tax Collector of the parish of Bossier.

An act to amend an act entitled an act amending the act concerning the town of Bastrop, approved March 9th, 1861.

An act to define the qualifications of jurors and who are exempt from the duties thereof, all of which bills received the signature of the President pro tem of the Senate, and were, by the Secretary, returned to the House.

REPORT FROM STANDING COMMITTEES.

Mr. Moore, from the committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred the House joint resolution to authorize the Governor to take measures to prevent illegal impressment by Confederate authorities, and Senate joint resolution relative to illegal acts of spoliation by officers of the Confederate States army, submitted a favorable report on both said joint resolutions,

And the same Senator from the same Committee, to whom was referred Senate bill entitled an act to prevent the issuing of license to any person who is not a citizen of the Confederate States or who have taken the oath of allegiance to the United

States since the 1st of July, 1862, reported the same back to the Senate without action, and asked to be discharged from the further consideration of the subject matter.

Mr. Weightman, from the committee on Public Works, to whom was referred House bill entitled an act for the relief of Thomas H. Pitts, of the parish of Caddo, submitted a favorable report with amendment.

REPORT FROM A SELECT JOINT COMMITTEE.

Mr. McDonald, from the joint select committee of both Houses appointed to examine the books, accounts and voucher of the State Treasurer and Auditor and the contingent expenses of ex-Governor Thomas O. Moore, submitted the following report :

The committee to whom was referred for examination the contingent expense accounts of the Auditor, Treasurer, and Governor Thomas O. Moore, beg leave to report that they have carefully examined the same, compared the vouchers submitted, and find them to agree with the expenditures.

The amount expended by the Governor since his last report 30th December, 1862, we find to amount to \$3323 80, leaving a balance on hand of former appropriations of \$8,119 18, of which \$810 41 is unavailable, being in the bank at Baton Rouge, leaving a balance on hand and transferred to the credit of his successor, of \$6,308 67. The amount of expenditures by the Auditor since his last report, 1st, April, 1863, to 31st December, 1863, is found to be \$813 33, leaving an unexpended balance of \$186 67. The expenditures in the Treasurer's office from 1st January, 1863, to 1st January, 1864, amounts to \$149 10. All of which is respectfully submitted.

[Signed] J. W. McDONALD,
Chairman Senate Committee.

THOS. C. ANDERSON,
Chairman of House Com.

BILLS INTRODUCED WITHOUT NOTICE AND REFERRED.

The hereinafter named Senators, without previous notice, and with a suspension of the rule just granted, asked and obtained leave to introduce the following entitled bills, which underwent their first and second readings by their respective titles, and they were respectively referred as indicated below; to-wit :

Mr. Rogers,

An act relative to attachments in certain cases.

An act to emancipate William H. Brummet.

An act to amend the 2d paragraph of article 1116 of the Code of Practice, which were referred the Committee on the Judiciary.

An act to authorize the Governor to appoint a Collector to receive and receipt for taxes east of the Mississippi river, which

was ordered to be referred to the Committee on Finance.

An act to authorize the Governor to raise a company of mounted men east of the Mississippi river.

Mr. Abney,

An act to authorize certain persons to attach themselves to any military company in the State service, both of which bills were ordered to be referred to the Committee on the Militia.

Mr. Weightman,

An act for the relief of the heirs and legal representatives of Louis Delabous-saye, which was referred to the Committee on Public Works.

BILL INTRODUCED ACCORDING TO NOTICE AND PASSED.

The hereinafter named Senators, without previous notice given and with a suspension of the rules first granted, asked and obtained leave to introduce the following entitled bills which underwent their first and second readings by their respective titles, and they were severally referred as indicated below, to-wit :

Mr. Moore,

An act to abolish the office of State Librarian.

Mr. Wall.

An act to authorize the parishes of Washington and St. Tammany to draw from the Treasury the amount due for the relief of families of officers, non-commissioned officers, soldiers and marines.

On their respective motions the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House in said bills.

SPECIAL ORDER OF THE DAY.

This being the day set apart for the consideration of Senate bill entitled an act to amend and re-enact an act entitled an act to suspend all existing prescriptions, approved 10th, June, 1863, the same was taken up, when on motion by Mr. McDonald, the further consideration of this bill was postponed, and it was ordered to be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, with instructions to report thereon to-morrow.

ORDERS OF THE DAY—2D READINGS.

An act for the relief of C. L. Mayor.

On motion by Mr. Clark, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its second and third readings, it was concurred in, and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

An act for the relief of Thomas. H. Pitts.

Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened, That Thomas H. Pitts, of the parish of Cado-be and he is hereby authorized to enter at the rate of one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre the now the unsurveyed portions of sections three and ten, in town-

ship twenty, north of range sixteen west north-western district, to include his improved land, when the same shall have been surveyed, at his own proper cost and expense, under the direction and approval of the Commissioner of Public Lands, provided interference shall not occur with any prior right acquired by pre-emption or otherwise.

On motion by Mr. Weightman, the amendment of the committee to the bill, which is as follows, to-wit :

And provided further, that not more than one hundred and sixty acres of land shall be entered by virtue of this act, was adopted.

On motion by Mr. Weightman, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its second and third readings, it was concurred in as amended, and on further motion, the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

An act to amend the first section of an act entitled an act prescribing an additional oath for Electors in certain cases, approved June 17th, 1863.

On motion by Mr. McDonald, the unfavorable report of the Committee on the Judiciary on this bill was adopted, and this bill was ordered to be rejected.

An act to amend the first section of an act entitled an act prescribing an additional oath for commissioners of Elections, approved June 16th, 1863.

On motion by Mr. McDonald, the unfavorable report of the Committee on the Judiciary on this bill was adopted, and this bill was ordered to be rejected.

An act to provide for the confinement of persons convicted of crimes punishable with hard labor and confinement.

On motion by Mr. Texada this bill was ordered to be recommitted to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Samuel Clark in the chair.

An act to amend and re-enact joint resolution relative to the withdrawal from public sale or private entry or location all the public lands of this State, approved June 18th, 1863.

On motion by Mr. Moore, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its second and third readings, it passed and the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

An act to authorize Lewis Phillips and his wife Harriet Phillips to adopt Lewis Oscar Phillips, a minor.

On motion by Mr. Moore the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its second and third readings, was concurred in and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

An act conferring additional powers on the clerks of the district courts generally. The 1st and 3d Sections was read and adopted.

Sec. 1. Be it further enacted, &c., That

in case of opposition and in the event of any contestation arising after the order has been granted and to the manner of making the partition, all further proceedings shall be suspended and opposition or contestation placed on the succession docket of the district court of the parish for trial.

On motion by Mr. Texada, the amendment of the committee on the Judiciary to this bill, to-wit: to insert in the 4th line after the word "partition," the words "or heirship," was adopted.

The 4th, 5th and 6th sections were read and adopted.

On motion by the same Senator the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its second and third readings, it was concurred in as amended and the Secretary was directed to inform House thereof.

An act to abolish the office of State Engineer.

On motion by Mr. Texada the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its second and third readings, it passed and the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

Joint resolution authorizing the printing of the Senate and House journals.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened, That a joint committee of members on the part of the Senate and five members on the part of the House be appointed to contract for the publication in pamphlet form of five hundred copies of the Senate and House journals.

On motion by Mr. Weightman, the resolution was amended by striking out in the sixth line the word "five" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "two."

On motion by Mr. Texada, the above resolution was further amended by filling the blank with the word "three."

And the President pro tem. appointed Messrs. Texada, Weightman and Weeks the Committee on the part of the Senate.

Pending the consideration of the above joint resolution, on motion by Mr. Moore, the Senate adjourned until to-morrow at 11 o'clock, A. M.

THURSDAY, February 4, 1864.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

Present—Mr. Samuel Clark, of De Soto, in the chair.

Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Cocco, Fuller, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Pond, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Wall, Weeks, Weightman.

16 Senators.

The proceedings were opened with prayer offered by Rev. Mr. J. W. Mosely.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

On motion by Mr. Lott the absence of

Mr. Samuel B. Oswalt, Senator from the district composed of the parishes of Concordia, Madison and Tensas, was excused on account of sickness.

On his own motion leave of absence until Monday was granted to W. A. M. Gray, Senator from the district composed of the parishes of Avoyelles, Point Coupee and West Feliciana.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS.

Mr. H. M. Favrot, private Secretary of his Excellency Henry W. Allen, Governor of the State, delivered to the Senate the following communication, viz:

SPECIAL MESSAGE.

Gentlemen of the Senate
and House of Representative:

By proclamation from Major General Banks, in the Federal newspapers, you will see that an election is ordered in that portion of the State of Louisiana now in the possession of the enemy for State officers. The object of this proclamation is plainly to divide the people of the State and Germany committed to Federal rule under the false and deceitful promises of an independent State Government. Every man in Louisiana who has suffered from Yankee outrages well knows that this is a mere mockery, for the action of the "so called" State Government will be throttled by the military, just as soon as it attempts to redress any grievances. I respectfully suggest that you immediately pass joint resolutions declaring that all who shall participate in said election, hold office by virtue of the same, or attempt to set up a government against the legitimate and regularly constituted authorities of the State are the only rebels, and will be liable to all the pains and penalties of treason.

(Signed) HENRY W. ALLEN,

Governor of the State of Louisiana
Shreveport, La. Feb. 4th, 1864.

On motion by Mr. Gantt the above communication was ordered to be referred to the committee on Confederate Relations.

By the same message his Excellency the Governor transmitted to the Senate a letter from the Hon. Victor Burthe, Commissioner to distribute the relief fund in accordance with act No. 25, approved June 18th, 1853, and requesting further legislation on the same subject matter, on motion by Mr. Weeks, was ordered to be referred to a select committee of three.

Whereupon the chair appointed on the committee Messrs. Weeks, Reeves and Gantt.

EXECUTIVE SESSION.

On motion by Mr. Wall, the Senate proceeded with closed doors to the consideration of Executive business, and after some time therein spent, the doors were re-opened.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE.

Mr. J. Pinckney Smith, Special Messen-

ger of the House of Representatives, informed the Senate that the House refuses to concur in Senate's amendment to House Bill entitled an act to provide for the printing of the acts passed by the General Assembly at the session held in the town of Opelousas in 1852 and 1863.

That the House had concurred in Senate Bill entitled an act to authorize the Parish-ess of Washington and St. Tammany to draw from the Treasury the amount due for the relief of families of officers, non-commissioned officers, soldiers and marines.

And he requested the concurrence of the Senate in House Bill entitled an act for the disposal of runaway slaves.

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES.

Mr. Reeves, from the committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred Senate bills entitled an act relative to attachments in certain cases.

An act to amend and re-enact an act entitled an act to suspend all existing prescriptions," approved 10th June, 1853, and House bill entitled an act for the relief of John Hewitt, late Assessor of the Parish of Rapides, submitted a favorable report on each of said bills.

The same Senator from the same committee to whom was referred House bill entitled An act to provide for the confinement of persons convicted of crimes, punishable with hard labor and confinement, submitted a favorable report with amendment.

The same Senator from the same committee to whom was referred Senate Bills entitled :

An act to emancipate William H Brummett.

An act to amend the 2d paragraph of Article 1116 of the Code of Practice.

And An act to authorize the Treasurer to pay to the Branch of the Citizens Bank certain sums due by the State to the Citizens Bank, submitted an adverse report.

And the same Senator from the same Committee to whom was referred Memorial of John Moore of St. Martin parish, praying to be authorized to remove from State certain slaves, belonging to the late Daniel W. Mayer, and mortgaged to the Bank of Louisiana, submitted a favorable report by Bill entitled :

An act to authorize John Moore, tutor, to remove certain slaves beyond the limits of this State, which was passed to a 2d Reading.

Mr. Barrow from the committee on Confederate Relations to whom was referred House Joint resolution relative to the further prosecution of the war, submitted a favorable report.

Mr. Pond from the Committee on the Militia to whom was referred Senate Bills entitled :

An act to authorize the Governor to raise a company of mounted men, east of the Mississippi river.

And An act to authorize certain persons to attach themselves to any military company in the State service, submitted a favorable report on both bills.

BILLS INTRODUCED WITHOUT NOTICE AND REFERRED.

Mr. Weightman, without previous notice, and with a suspension of the rules first granted, asked and obtained leave to introduce the following entitled Bills, which underwent their first and second readings by their respective titles, and they were severally referred as indicated below, to-wit :

An act to provide appeals from the decisions of the Commissioners of Public Lands, which was reported to the committee on the Judiciary.

An act devolving certain duties upon the commissioner of Public Lands, which was referred to the committee on Public Works.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the unfinished business of yesterday, being House Joint Resolution authorizing the printing of the Senate and House journals, the pending question being the adoption of the same at its second reading, when Mr Weightman introduced the following as a substitute, to-wit :

An act providing for the printing and distribution of the journals of the Senate and House of Representatives.

Which underwent its several readings, it passed and the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

On motion by Mr. McDonald, the rules were suspended and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of Senate Bill entitled :

An act to amend and re-enact the act entitled, an act to suspend all existing prescriptions, approved 10th June 1863, which was taken up.

Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened, That the act entitled an act to suspend all existing prescriptions, approved 10th day June 1863, be amended and re-enacted so as to read as follows : "That all prescriptions of any and every nature whatever, be and the same is hereby suspended during the existence of the present war, and for one year after the ratification of a treaty of peace between the Confederate States and the United States; provided that this act shall not operate in behalf of any person having adhered to the public enemy by taking the oath of allegiance to the United States, or in any way giving them aid and comfort; nor shall the provisions of this act apply to married obligations drawn in favor of any person or persons who have remained within the enemy's line or who coming

out fail to make judicial demand or to present such obligations for payment.

On motion by Mr. Pond, the 1st section was amended by adding at the end thereof the following additional proviso: "And provided that whenever the debtor shall refuse to acknowledge, upon such presentation, the claim, debt or obligation, prescription against the same shall be interrupted only by judicial demand.

And the 1st section was adopted as amended.

The 2d section was read and adopted.

On motion by Mr. McDonald, this bill underwent its 2d and 3d readings, and on its final passage the yeas and nays were ordered under the rules and being taken resulted as follows, to-wit:

Yeas—Messrs. Abney, Coco, Fuller, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Pond, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Wall and Weaks. 13 Senators.

Nays—Messrs. Barrow and Weightman. 2 Senators.

So the bill passed.

On motion by Mr. McDonald, the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

ORDERS OF THE DAY—2D READINGS.

An act to prevent the issuing of license to any person who is not a citizen of the Confederate States, and who have taken the oath of allegiance to the United States since the 1st of July, 1862.

The 1st section being under consideration; when Mr. Gantt offered the following as a substitute:

Section. 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana, in General Assembly convened, That from and after the passage of this act it shall be unlawful to issue or grant any license to pursue any occupation, trade or profession, either on the part of the State or by the authority of any Parish, incorporated city or town in this State, to any person or persons who is not a citizen of this State or of the Confederate State or who may have taken the oath of allegiance to the United States, or in any way aided or abetted the enemy.

Mr. Weaks moved to amend the 1st section by inserting after the word "States" in the 7th line the following words, viz.: And who come within the ages of conscription in the Confederate States.

On a division of the votes Mr. Weaks' amendment was not agreed to.

Mr. McDonald moved to lay the 1st section on the table, and upon that motion Mr. Gantt called for the yeas and nays: they were ordered and being taken resulted as follows, to-wit:

Yeas—Messrs. Coco, McDonald, Pond, Reeves, Texada, Wall and Weaks.—7 yeas.

Nays—Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Fuller,

Gantt, Gray, Lott, Rogers and Weightman 8 Senators.

So Mr. McDonald's motion to lay the 1st section on the table did not prevail.

And the substitute offered by Mr. Gantt was adopted as the 1st section of the bill.

The 2d section was read and adopted.

The 3d section being under consideration, Mr. Gantt offered the following substitute, to-wit:

Sec. 3. Be it enacted, &c., That if any officer of the State or any Parish, incorporated city, or town in the State shall knowingly or willingly issue any license to pursue any occupation, trade or profession, to any person or persons, not legally entitled to exercise the same under the provisions of the first section of this act, shall, on conviction thereof, be fined in the sum not less than one hundred dollars nor more than five hundred dollars, at the discretion of the court for each and every offence.

On motion by Mr. Gantt, his substitute was adopted as the 3d section of the bill.

The 4th section of the bill was read and adopted.

Sec. 5. Be it further enacted, &c., That this act shall be in force and take effect from after its passage.

On motion by Mr. Texada, the 5th section was stricken out.

On motion by Mr. Gantt, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its 2d and 3d readings, and on the question of its final adoption, Mr. Weaks called for the yeas and nays; they were ordered and being taken, resulted as follows, to-wit:

Yeas—Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Gantt, Lott, Rogers and Weightman.—6 Senators.

Nays—Messrs. Coco, Fuller, Gray, McDonald, Pond, Reeves, Texada, Wall and Weaks.—9 Senators.

EXECUTIVE SESSION.

On motion by Mr. Texada, the Senate proceeded with closed doors, to the consideration of executive business, and after some time therein spent, the doors were reopened.

On motion by Mr. Lott, the Senate adjourned until to-morrow at 11 o'clock, A. M.

FRIDAY, February 5th, 1864.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

Present, Mr. John Moore, President pro tem. of the Senate, Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Coco, Fuller, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Pond, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Wall, Weaks and Weightman.—16 Senators.

The proceedings were opened with prayers by the Rev. W. W. H. Smith, Post Chaplain.

The journal of last Saturday was read and approved.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

Maj. H. M. Favrot, private Secretary of

his Excellency the Governor, delivered to the Senate several sealed Executive communication.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE.

Mr. Hardy, Special messenger of the House, requested the concurrence of the Senate on House bill entitled:

"An act to suspend the collection of taxes."

And he requested the signature of the President of the Senate to House enrolled bills of the following titles, to-wit:

An act to authorize Lewis Phillips and his wife, Harriet Phillips, to adopt Lewis Oscar Phillips, a minor—and,

An act for the relief of C. L. Mavor.

REPORT FROM STANDING COMMITTEES.

Mr. Reeves, from the committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred Senate bill entitled:

"An act to provide for appeals from the decision of the Commissioner of Public Lands," submitted a favorable report.

Mr. Wall, from the committee on Public Education, to whom was referred the communication from his Excellency, the Governor, transmitting Report of William A. Seay, Superintendent of the Louisiana State Seminary of Learning, reported the same back without action, there being no quorum of the committee present.

Mr. Texada, from the committee on Finance, to whom was referred communication from the Auditor of Public Accounts transmitting list of defaulters to the State on account of State Taxes, and the Annual Report of the State Treasurer reported the same back to the Senate without action.

The same Senator from the same committee, reported to the Senate a bill entitled:

"An act making appropriations for the general expenses of the State for the year ending the 31st day of March, 1865, which underwent its first reading.

On motion by the same Senator, the further consideration of this bill was postponed and it was made the special order of the day for to-morrow.

REPORT FROM SELECT COMMITTEES.

Mr. Weeks, from the select committee, to whom was referred the communication from his Excellency, the Governor, transmitting a letter of Hon. Nictor Barthe, Commissioner at Mobile, in relation to relief to be extended to destitute exiles from New Orleans and vicinity, reported by bill entitled:

"An act to carry out the distribution of three hundred thousand dollars, appropriated by the State Legislature for the relief of forced and voluntary exiles from New Orleans and vicinity," which was read a first and second time by its title.

BILL FIXED FOR A PARTICULAR DAY.

On motion by Mr. Texada the rules were

suspended and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of Senate bill entitled:

An act to authorize the Governor to appoint a Collector to receive and receipt for taxes, east of the Mississippi river, which is at its 2d reading.

On motion by Mr. Texada, the further consideration of this bill was postponed and it was made the special order of the day for to-morrow.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

House Message—1st Reading:

An act for the disposal of runaway slaves.

On motion by Mr. Gantt, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its first and second readings, by its title, and it was referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

2d Readings:

An act to provide for the printing of the acts passed by the General Assembly at the session held in the town of Opelousas in 1862 and 1863

On motion by Mr. Gantt, the Senate receded from its amendment, and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

An act to regulate the employment of certain persons.

On motion of the same Senator this bill was indefinitely postponed.

An act to authorize the Treasurer to pay to the Branch of the Citizens' Bank certain sums due by the State to the Citizens' Bank.

On motion of Mr. Reeves, the adverse report of the Committee on the Judiciary on this bill was adopted and this bill was indefinitely postponed.

Joint Resolution relative to the further prosecution of the war.

Whereas, The United States continues to wage war against the Confederate States with ruthless barbarity and utter disregard of the rules of civilized warfare; and whereas, the despot who wields with absolute power the destinies of that Government, has manifested in all his messages and proclamations, a malignant hatred of the people of the South, and disposition to heap insult upon injury and outrage; and whereas, this course of conduct has strengthened us in our determination to maintain our separation from the Government and people of the North. Therefore,

1st. Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened, That the barbarous manner in which our enemies have waged war against us, deserves the execration of all men, and has confirmed and strengthened us in the determination to oppose to the last extremity a re-union with them; and that the spirit of our people is unabated in the resolution to resist every attempt at their subjugation.

Mr. Lott moved to amend the 1st resolu-

tion by striking out all after the word "men" in the 6th line down to the word "and" in the 9th line, and on motion he called for the yeas and nays, they were ordered and being taken, resulted as follows, to-wit :

Yeas—Messrs. Fuller, Lott, Reeves, Rogers, and Weaks—5 Senators.

Nays—Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Coco, Gantt, McDonald, Pond, Wall and Weightman—8 Senators.

So Mr. Lott's amendment was not agreed to.

And the 1st Resolution was adopted.

2d. Be it further resolved, &c., That relying upon the ability of our Chief Magistrate, the skill of our military leaders, the bravery of our soldiers, the heroic devotion of our women, the ardent patriotism of our men, and, above all, upon the justice of our cause, invoking the blessing of Almighty God upon our efforts, we confidently abide the result.

On motion Mr. by Gantt, the 2d Resolution was adopted.

3d. Be it further resolved, &c., That in this hour of trial, the State of Louisiana tenders to her Government and sister States her warmest sympathy and cordial co-operation to spare no expense of blood or treasure in defense of the Confederate States of America as a free and independent Republic.

On motion by Mr. Gantt, the 3d Resolution was adopted.

4th. Be it further resolved, &c., That his Excellency, the Governor, be and he is hereby requested to transmit copies of these resolutions to our Senators and Representatives in Congress, and to the Governors of our sister States.

On motion by Mr. Gantt, the 4th Resolution was adopted.

On motion by the same Senator, the rules were suspended, these Joint Resolutions underwent their 2d and 3d readings, and on their adoption, Mr. Lott called for the yeas and nays, they were ordered and being taken resulted as follows, to-wit :

Yeas—Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Coco, Gantt, McDonald, Pond, Wall, and Weightman—8 Senators.

Nays—Messrs. Fuller, Lott, Reeves, Rogers, and Weaks—5 Senators.

So the Joint Resolutions were adopted.

Mr. Lott, moved to amend the preamble of these Joint Resolutions by striking therefrom all after the word "outrage" down to the word "North" inclusive.

On a division of the vote Mr. Lott's motion did not prevail, and the preamble was adopted.

And these Joint Resolutions were adopted with their titles, and on motion by Mr. Gantt, the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

An act for the relief of John Hewitt late Assessor of the Parish of Rapides

On motion of Mr. Texada, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its 2d and 3d readings, it was concurred in and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

An act to amend an act entitled an act relative to judiciary proceedings against persons in the military or naval service, approved 21st December, 1861.

On motion by Mr. McDonald, the further consideration of this bill was postponed and it was ordered to be printed.

Joint Resolutions relative to illegal acts of spoliation by officers of the Confederate States Army.

On motion by Mr. Barrow the rules were suspended, these Joint Resolution underwent their 2d and 3d readings, they passed and the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

Joint Resolution for the adjournment of the Legislature.

On motion by Mr. Texada, the rules were suspended, this Joint Resolution underwent its 2d and 3d readings, it was concurred in and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

Joint resolutions to authorize the Governor to take measures to prevent illegal impressment by Confederate authorities.

On motion by Mr. Weaks, the rules were suspended, the Joint Resolutions underwent their 2d and 3d readings, they were concurred in and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

An act to emancipate William H. Brummett, a minor.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana, in General Assembly convened, That from and after the passage of this act William Harrison Brummett of the parish of Winn, be and he is hereby emancipated from all disabilities declared by existing laws relative to minors, and that he be and he is hereby authorized to do and perform all acts and enter into and contract all obligations to sell, purchase or mortgage his property, real and personal ; to sue and be sued, and to do and perform all acts relative to property, rights and credits as fully and legally as if he had attained the age of twenty-one years.

On motion by Mr. Rogers, the 1st section was amended by striking therefrom all after the word "emancipated" in the 6th line and insert after the word "Brummett" the words "a minor."

On motion by the same Senator, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its 2d and 3d readings, it passed and the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

An act to amend the 2d paragraph of Article 1116 of the Code of Practice.

On motion by Mr. McDonald, the adverse report of the committee on the Judi-

ciary on this bill was adopted and the bill was ordered to be indefinitely postponed.

An act relative to attachments in certain cases.

On motion by Mr. Rogers, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its 2d and 3d readings, it passed and the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

An act to authorize the Governor to raise a company of mounted men, east of the Mississippi river.

On motion by Mr. Pond, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its 2d and 3d readings, it passed and the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

An act to authorize certain persons to attach themselves to any military company in the State Service.

On motion by Mr. Pond, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its 2d and 3d reading, it passed, and on motion by Mr. Abney, the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

An act to authorize John Moore, tutor, to remove certain slaves beyond the limits of the State.

On motion by Mr. Reeves, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its 2d and 3d readings, it passed, and the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

EXECUTIVE SESSION.

On motion by Mr. Texada, the Senate proceeded, with closed doors, to the consideration of Executive business, and after some time spent therein, the doors were re-opened.

When on motion by the same Senator the Senate adjourned until to-morrow at 11 o'clock, A. M.

SATURDAY, February 6, 1864.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

Present Mr. Samuel Clarke, of DeSoto, in the chair—

Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Coco, Fuller, Gantt, Lott, McDonald, Pond, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Wall, Weaks and Weightman—16 Senators.

The proceeding were opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Moseley.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

Mr. H. M. Favrot, private secretary to his Excellency the Governor, delivered to the Senate several sealed Executive communications.

MESSAGE TO THE HOUSE.

The Secretary requested the concurrence of the House in Senate bills of the following titles, to-wit :

An act relative to attachments in certain cases.

An act to authorize the Governor to raise a company of mounted men east of the Mississippi river.

An act to authorize persons to attach themselves to any military company in the State service

And he informed the House that the President pro tem. of the Senate had signed House enrolled bills of the following titles, to-wit :

An act to provide for the printing of the acts passed by the General Assembly at the session held in Opelousas in 1862 and 1863.

An act for the relief of C. L. Mavor.

An act for the relief of John Hewitt, late Assessor of the parish of Rapides.

And An act to authorize Lewis Phillips and his wife Harriet Phillips to adopt Lewis Oscar Phillips, a minor.

REPORT ON ENROLLED BILLS.

Mr. Weightman, from the committee on Enrolled bills, reported as correctly enrolled Senate bills entitled :

An act authorizing the Governor to appoint a Commissioner to carry the money due the soldiers' families of the parish of Livingston to said parish.

And An act to authorize the parishes of Washington and St. Tammany to draw from the Treasury the amount due for the relief of families of officers, non-commissioned officers, soldiers and marines.

And the Secretary was directed to request the signature of the Speaker of the House thereto.

RESOLUTIONS.

Mr. Pond submitted the following resolutions, which was considered by unanimous consent and agreed to :

Resolved, That Samuel Clark be authorized to sign bills in the absence of Lieut. Governor Pearce and John Moore, President pro tem. of the Senate, in the same manner as if he were President pro tempore of the Senate.

Mr. Barrow submitted the following resolution, which was considered by unanimous consent and agreed to :

Resolved, That the committee on the Judiciary be instructed to inquire into the power of the General Assembly to discriminate against aliens in the passage of a law relative to issuing licenses to persons pursuing any occupation, trade or profession in this State.

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES.

Mr. Reeves from the Judiciary committee, to whom was referred House bill, entitled

An act for the disposal of runaway slaves, submitted an adverse report.

Mr. Lott, from the committee on Claims, to whom was referred Senate bill entitled

An act for the relief of R. L. Fox, submitted an adverse report.

On motion by Mr. Texada, leave was granted him to withdraw from the bill the documents accompanying the same.

RECONSIDERATION.

On motion by Mr. Pond leave was granted to reconsider the vote given on yesterday in the indefinite postponement of Senate bill entitled

An act to authorize the Treasurer to pay to the branch of the Citizens' Bank certain sums due by the State to the Citizens' Bank, the reconsideration being granted, the bill was taken up.

On motion by the same Senator this bill was ordered to be recommitted to the committee on the Judiciary.

WILLS INTRODUCED WITHOUT NOTICE AND REFERRED.

The hereinafter named Senators, without previous notice granted, asked and obtained leave to introduce the following entitled bills, which underwent their first and second readings by their respective titles, and they were severally referred to the committee on the Judiciary as follows, to-wit :

Mr. McDonald,

An act to revive in part section eleven of an act entitled an act relative to public lands, approved 21st March, 1861.

Mr. Lott,

An act relative to the offence of disloyalty.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

This being the day set apart for the consideration of Senate bill entitled

An act making appropriations for the general expenses of the State for the year ending the 31st day of March, 1855, the same was taken up.

The 1st section was read and considered item by item.

Item 1st was read and adopted.

Item 2d "For the salary of the Secretary of State under article No. 273 of 1855, two thousand dollars."

Mr. Pond moved to amend the second section by striking out therefrom the words "two thousand dollars" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "five thousand dollars."

Mr. Reeves moved to divide the question.

The question was first taken on the motion to strike out.

On that motion Mr. Lott called for the yeas and nays, they were ordered and being taken resulted as follows, to-wit :

Yeas—Messrs. Barrow, Coco, Pond, Rogers, Texada and Wall.—6 Senators.

Nays—Messrs. Abney, Fuller, Gantt, Lott, Reeves, Weeks and Weightman.—7 Senators.

So the motion to strike out was not agreed to.

And the second item was adopted.

Item 3. For the salary of the State Treasurer under act No. 325 of 1855, twenty-five hundred dollars.

Mr. Barrow moved to amend the 3d item by striking out therefrom the words "twenty-five hundred dollars," and inserting in lieu thereof the words "five thousand dollars."

The motion was first taken on the motion to strike out, upon which Mr. Lott called for the yeas and nays, they were ordered and being taken resulted as follows, viz :

Yeas—Messrs. Barrow, Coco, McDonald, Pond, Rogers, Texada and Wall.—7 Senators.

Nays—Messrs. Abney, Fuller, Gantt, Lott, Reeves, Weeks and Weightman.—7 Senators.

There being a tie the chair gave his casting vote in the negative, and the motion to strike out was disagreed to.

Mr. Texada moved to amend the 3d section by adding at the end thereof the following words, to-wit : and as Receiver under act No. 267 of 1861, two thousand dollars."

On a division of the question Mr. Texada's amendment was agreed to.

Items 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th and 16th were read and adopted seriatim.

Item 17. For the salary of the chief clerk of the Treasurer's office under act No. 325 of 1855, two thousand dollars.

On motion by Mr. Texada, the above item was amended by striking out therefrom the words "two thousand dollars" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "twenty-five hundred dollars."

And the 17th item was adopted as amended.

Item 18. For the salary of the Assistant Clerk of the Treasurer's office, appropriated bill twelve hundred dollars.

On motion by Mr. Texada, the above item was amended by striking out therefrom the words "twelve hundred dollars," and inserting in lieu thereof the words "twenty-five hundred dollars."

And the 18th item was adopted as amended.

Item 19th was read and amended.

On motion by Mr. Texada, the following was adopted as the 20th item of the bill :

Item 20th. For the salary of James M. Searles, State Engineer, from the 1st of April to the 31st of December, 1863, eighteen hundred and seventy-five dollars.

The 21st, 22d, 23d, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32d, 33d, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 39th, 40th, 41st, 42d, 43rd, 44th, 45th, 46th, 47th, 48th, 49th, 50th and 51st items were read and adopted seriatim.

On motion by Mr. Texada, the 1st section was adopted as amended.

The 2d section was read and adopted.

On motion by the same Senator, the rules

were suspended, this bill underwent its 2d and 3d readings, it passed and the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

This being also the day set apart for the consideration of Senate bill entitled :

"An act to authorize the Governor to appoint a Collector to receive and receipt for taxes, east of the Mississippi river, the same was taken up.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened, That the Governor be and he is hereby authorized to appoint a Collector to receive and receipt for all taxes due the State, and which may be voluntarily paid by persons living on the east side of the Mississippi river.

On motion by Mr. Texada, the amendment of the committee on Finance to the 1st section which was to add in the 8th line after the word "due," the following words, "and which may become due," was adopted.

On motion by the same Senator, the 1st section was further amended by further adopting the amendment of the same committee, which was to add at the end of the section, the following words: "which receipt so given shall be evidence of a credit *pro tanto* for taxes, in favor of the party who shall make such payments under the provisions of this act.

And the 1st section was adopted as amended.

The 2d, 3d, 4th and 5th sections were read and adopted seriatim.

On motion by Mr. Pond the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its 2d and 3d readings, it passed, and the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE.

By several messages from the House of Representatives, the concurrence of the Senate was requested in the following entitled House bills and Joint Resolution, to-wit :

An act relative to the machinery and buildings of the State Penitentiary.

An act to authorize the sale of Bonds for the relief of the Treasury and the final liquidation of the principal and interest.

An act to authorize the Governor to suspend the signing and issuing of treasury notes.

And act to authorize the Treasurer to receive taxes that may be tendered him.

An act to authorize the Governor to purchase medicines for the benefit of the families of soldiers, sailors and indigent persons and families.

An act to authorize the Governor to appoint a Supreme Judge for the 2d Judicial District.

An act for the relief of wounded and disabled soldiers.

An act to amend an act entitled an act to authorize the Governor to purchase cotton and wool cards for the benefit of the families of soldier's.

And Joint Resolution for the appointment of a joint committee of both Houses in reference to the Governor's special message in regard to State elections ordered by the Federal authorities.

And that the Speaker had appointed Messrs. Morehead, Kerman, Foulhouse, Head and Pressley, the committee on the part of the House.

That the House has concurred in Senate bills entitled :

An act to authorize the Governor to appoint a Commissioner to carry the money due the soldier's families of the Parish of Livingston, to said Parish.

An act to authorize the parishes of Washington and St Tammany to draw from the Treasury the amount due for the relief of families of officers, non-commissioned officers, soldiers and marines.

An act concerning printing for the Legislature and Executive Departments of the State Government.

An act punishing Confederate officers and others for impressing private property in violation of law.

An act relative to Confederate and State Bonds.

And that the House had concurred in Senate's amendments to House enrolled bills, to-wit :

An act conferring additional powers on the clerks of the district courts generally.

An act for the relief of Thomas. H Pitts, of the Parish of Caddo.

And he requested the signature of the President of the Senate to House enrolled bills of the following to-wit :

An act providing for the printing of the acts passed by the General Assembly at the session held in the town of Opelousas, in 1862 and 1863.

An act for the relief of John Hewitt, late Assessor of the Parish of Rapides.

Which thereupon received the signature of the President pro tem. and were, by the Secretary, returned to the House.

By the same message the Senate was informed that the Speaker signed Senate enrolled bills of the following titles, to-wit :

An act authorizing the Governor to appoint a Commissioner to carry the money due the soldier's families of the Parish of Livingston, to said Parish.

And an act authorizing the parishes of Washington and St. Tammany to draw from the Treasury the amount due for the relief of families of officers non-commissioned officers, soldiers and marines,

Which bills received the signature of the President pro tem. and were submitted by Mr. Weightman on the part of the committee on enrolled bills, to his Excellency, the

Governor, for his approval and signature.

House bills and Joint Resolutions concurred in.

On motion by Mr. Barrow, the rules were suspended and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of House Resolution for the appointment of a joint committee of both Houses in reference to the Governor's special message in regard to State elections ordered by Federal authorities, which Joint Resolution underwent its second reading and it was concurred in.

Whereupon the chair appointed Messrs. Barrow, Lott and Reeves, the committee on the part of the Senate.

And the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

On motion by Mr. Texada, the rules were suspended, and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of House bill entitled :

"An act to authorize the sale of Bonds for the relief of the Treasury and the final liquidation of the principal and interest thereof," which underwent its 1st and 2d readings, and was taken up section by section.

The 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th and 5th sections were read and adopted seriatim.

Sec. 6. Be it further enacted, &c.. That for the payment of the current interest that may accrue upon the Bonds to be issued under this Act, and of the principal of the Bonds as the same mature, it shall be the duty of the Auditor and State Treasury to create a sinking fund, which shall be credited annually, with twenty-five per cent. of all taxes collected upon the moveable or immoveable property, rights and credits, and from Licenses on trades, professions and occupations. Said fund as it accumulates, shall be invested by the Governor in the purchase of Bonds created by this act, or of other safe and well secured bonds, bearing a rate of interest, not less than six per centum per annum; said Fund is hereby declared sacred for the purposes contemplated by this act, and shall only be applied thereto.

On motion by Mr. McDonald, the 6th section was amended by striking therefrom in the 8th line the words "twenty-five" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "thirty-three and one third."

And the 6th section was adopted as amended.

The 7th section was read and adopted.

Sec. 8. Be it further enacted &c., That the sum of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000), or so much thereof as may be necessary, be and the same is hereby appropriated out of any monies in the Treasury, for the purpose of engraving, printing, filing, dating, numbering, &c., said Bonds; provided ten cents and no more shall be allowed the Assistant Secretary of the State for each impression of the seal of the State on said Bonds.

On motion by Mr. McDonald the 8th section was amended by inserting after the word "Treasury" in the 3d line the following words, to-wit: "on the warrant of the Governor," and the 8th section was adopted as amended.

The 9th section was read and adopted.

On motion by Mr. Texada, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its second and third readings, it was concurred in and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

On motion by the same Senator the rules were suspended, and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of House bill entitled :

"An act to authorize the Governor to purchase medicines for the benefit of the families of soldiers, sailors and indigent persons of families, it was concurred in and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

On motion of the same Senator the rules were suspended, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of House bill entitled :

"An act to authorize the Governor to purchase cotton and wool cards for the benefit of the families of soldiers," which underwent its several readings. it was concurred in, and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

Maj. H. M. Favrot, private Secretary of the Governor, informed the Senate that his Excellency had, this day, approved and signed the following entitled Senate bills, to-wit :

An act authorizing the Governor to appoint a Commissioner to carry the money due the soldiers' families of the parish of Livingston to said parish.

And An act to authorize the parishes of Washington and St. Tammany to draw from the Treasury the amount due for the relief of families of officers, non-commissioned officers, soldiers and marines.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

House Messages—1st Reading :

An act to suspend the collection of taxes.

On motion by Mr. Texada the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its first, second and third readings, by its title, and Senate proceeded to its consideration.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana, in General Assembly convened: That the payment, by compulsory process of all State taxes levied under existing laws be, and the same is hereby suspended until the first of February, eighteen hundred and sixty-five; provided however, if there should be no regular annual session of the Legislature previous to that time, then, in that event, the suspension of taxes herein provided for, shall continue until the next meeting of the Legislature thereafter; provided further that this act

shall not apply to the collection of licenses on trades, professions or occupations.

On motion by Mr. Texada, the 1st section was amended by inserting after the words "sixty-five" in the 5th line the following words, viz: "but nothing in this act shall be so construed as to prevent voluntary payments of taxes." It still being incumbent on Sheriffs and Tax Collectors to receive all taxes which are due or may become due and receipt for the same.

And the 1st section was adopted as amended.

The 2 section was read and adopted.

On motion by Mr. Texada, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its second and third readings, it was concurred in as amended and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

Leave was granted Mr. Weightman to place upon record his reasons for opposing the bill, they are as follows, viz: "This Legislature has authorized the issue of ten millions bonds and, to meet the current interest and the principal as it becomes due, has pledged one-third of the taxes of the State; this bill suspends the collection of taxes, and, if passed, would make us inconsistent with ourselves; this, in my opinion would be somewhat like representing Shakespear's celebrated play of the 'Prince of Denmark' with the the part of Hamlet' omitted.

2d Readings :

An act to amend an act entitled :

"An act relative to Judicial proceedings against persons in the military or naval service," approved 21st Dec. 1861.

On motion by Mr. Reeves, the further consideration of this bill was postponed and it was made the special order of the day for Monday next.

An act to provide appeals from the decisions of the Commissioners of Public Lands.

Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened, That any claimant aggrieved by a decision of the Commissioner of Public Lands, any matter legally brought before him after action had thereon by the Register and Receiver of the proper District, and the matter in dispute exceeds three hundred dollars, shall have the right within six months after such decision, to appeal to the Supreme Court; provided that where either party contracts in the military or naval service of the Confederate States, or of this State, the right of appeal may be exercised, at any time within six months after a ratification of a treaty of peace, between the Confederate States and the United States.

On motion by Mr. Texada, the 1st section was rejected and this bill was indefinitely postponed.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

By a message from the House through

Mr. Isaacson, its Clerk, the Senate was informed that the House, had concurred in Senate's bill entitled :

An act to authorize the sale of Bonds for the relief of the Treasury and the final liquidation of the principal and interest thereon.

EXECUTIVE SESSION.

On motion by Mr. Texada, the Senate proceeded with closed doors to the consideration of Executive business, and after some time therein spent, the doors were re-opened.

When on motion by the same Senator, the Senate adjourned until Monday next, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

MONDAY, February 8, 1864.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

Present—Mr. John Moore, President pro tem. of the Senate.

Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Coco, Fuller, Gantt, Lott, McDonald, Pond, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Wall, Weaks, Weightman Gray and Clark—18 Senators.

The proceedings were opened with prayer by the Rev. W. H. M. Smith, Post Chaplain.

The journal of last Saturday was read and approved.

On motion of Mr. Gantt, the oath of office was administered by the President to Mr. H. J. Sanders, Senator from the District composed of the Parish of St. Mary, and to Mr. J. A. Taylor, Senator from the District composed of the Parishes of St. Landry, Calcasieu and Lafayette.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

Mr. H. M. Favrot, private secretary to his Excellency the Governor, delivered to the Senate several sealed Executive communications.

REPORT FROM STANDING COMMITTEES.

Mr. Reeves, from the committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred House bill entitled :

"An act to provide for the confinement of persons convicted of crimes, punishable with hard labor and confinement," and,

"An act relative to the offence of disloyalty," submitted a favorable report on both said bills with amendment.

And the same Senator from the same committee to whom was referred Senate bill entitled an act to revive in part section 11 of an act entitled :

"An act relative to Public Lands," approved 21st March, 1861, and Senate's Resolution instructing the committee on the Judiciary to inquire into the power of the General Assembly to discriminate against aliens in passing a law relative to issuing licenses, &c., reported them back to the Senate without action.

Mr. Weightman, from the committee on Public Works, to whom was referred Senate bill entitled :

"An act devolving certain duties, upon the Commissioner of Public Lands, and,

An act for the relief of the heirs and legal representatives of Louis Celahou-sage," reported both bill back to the Senate without action.

BILLS INTRODUCED WITHOUT NOTICE AND REFERRED.

The hereinafter named Senators without notice and with a suspension of the rules first granted, asked and obtained leave to introduce the following entitled Bills, which were severally disposed of as indicated below, to-wit:

Mr. Texada :

Joint Resolution authorizing the Governor to rent a building for certain State officers, which under a suspension of the rules underwent its several readings, it was adopted and the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

An act relative to the payment of salaries of State officers, which under a suspension, this bill underwent its 2d and 3d readings, it passed, and the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

Mr. Clark :

An act to authorize E. Himenes to adopt Anna and Josephine Armstrng as his legitimate heirs, which under a suspension of the rules, this bill underwent its 2d and 3d readings, it passed and the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

Mr. Pond :

An act to provide for defraying the expenses of the Treasurer at the seat of Government, which underwent its 1st readings and it was ordered to a 2d reading.

An act to provide for defraying the expenses of the Auditor of Public Accounts at the seat Government, which bill underwent its 1st reading and it was ordered to a 2d reading.

MESSAGE TO THE HOUSE.

Mr. Mott appeared at the bar of the Senate and delivered the following message, to-wit :

*To the Honorable the Senate
of the State of Louisiana :*

The undersigned, elected by the House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana for that purpose, beg leave to inform your honorably body that the said House has impeached A. M. Buchanan, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the State, that they have been selected managers and to deposit the impeachment with and request you to try said Buchanan at such time as may suit the convenience of the House.

Respectfully,

ROBERT MOTT.
W. FERUS KERNAN,
J. B. COTTON,
J. HUNTER COLLINS,
JAS. D. MCENERY,

} Managers.

And he also on the part of the managers delivered to the Senate a bill entitled :

"An act of impeachment of A. M. Buchanan, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of Louisiana for the First Supreme Judicial District."

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE.

Mr. Isaacson, Clerk of the House of Representatives, informed the Senate that the House had concurred in Senate's amendment to House bill entitled :

"An act to suspend the collection of taxes."

He also informed the Senate that the House had concurred in Senate bills entitled :

An act to organize the companies in 1st Battalion Louisiana Cavalry and 1st Battalion Louisiana State Troops.

An act to require the Supreme Court to hold an annual session in the town of Greensburg, La., and,

Joint Resolution to cancel the bond of the Auditor of Public Accounts.

And with amendments, in Senate bills entitled :

An act to organize the State Guard.

And an act to punish persons for harboring deserters.

He also requested the concurrence of the Senate in House bills of the following titles, to-wit :

An act to amend and re-enact an act entitled an act to authorize the session of a Supreme Court to be holden in the city of Shreveport or other places," approved June 18th, 1863.

An act establishing rules and articles for the Government of the army and militia of the State of Louisiana.

An act granting to the Confederate Government during the existing war, the right to use for Government purposes, timber on the public lands.

An act for the relief of T. J. Williams, late Sheriff of the Parish of DeSoto.

An act relative to the trial of persons accused of offenses, and—

Joint Resolution relative to claims against the Confederate Government.

On motion by Mr. Texada, the rules were suspended and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of House amendment to Senate's amendment to House bill entitled :

"An act to suspend the collection of taxes."

The amendment of the House being to amend the Senate's amendment to said bill.

On motion by Mr. Texada, the Senate disagreed to the House amendment, and he asked for a committee of Conference, whereupon the President pro tem. appointed Messrs. Texada, Pond and Lott, the committee of Conference on the part of the Senate, and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

On motion by the same Senator the rules

were suspended and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of House amendments to Senate bill entitled :

* An act to organize the State Guard."

The amendment of the House being to insert in the 1st section after the word "regiment," the words "or two battalions."

On motion by Mr. Texada, the Senate agreed to said amendment.

The amendment of the House being also to insert the same words after the word "regiment," in the 2d section.

On motion by the same Senator the Senate agreed to said amendment.

The amendment of the House being also to strike out the 4th section of the bill which reads as follows :

Sec. 4. Be it enacted, &c., That the Governor be authorized to establish rules and regulations for the government of said regiments.

On motion by the same Senator the amendment of the House striking out the 4th section was agreed to.

Sec. 6. Being further enacted, &c., That the Governor shall have power to strike from the roll any inefficient officers or others who may, in his opinion, deserve dismissal from the service.

On motion by the same Senator the amendment of the House striking out the 6th section was agreed to.

On motion by the same Senator a committee of Conference was asked for and the President pro tem. appointed Messrs. Texada, Pond and Lott, the committee of Conference on the part of the Senate, and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

On motion by Mr. Lott, the rules were suspended and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of Senate bill entitled :

"An act relative to the offences of disloyalty," and the same was taken up.

The 1st and 2d sections were read and considered, when on motion by the same Senator the same was stricken out and the following substituted therefor was adopted.

On motion by the same Senator, the same was adopted pending the consideration of this bill, the same was ordered to lie on the table subject to order.

SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY.

This being the day set apart for the consideration of House bill entitled :

An act to amend an act entitled an act relative to judiciary proceedings against persons in the military or naval service, approved 21st December, A. D. 1861, the same was taken up.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened, That the above entitled act relative to Judicial proceedings against persons in the military and naval service, be

amended and re-enacted so as to read as follows :

That no suit or other judicial proceedings in civil matters, shall hereafter be instituted, or had in the courts of this State against any person who may be at the time in the military or naval service of the Confederate States, or of this State; except for the opening and settlement of successions and partitions of the effects thereof among the legatees and heirs at law : and for actions in damages for torts committed since the passage of the above entitled act.

On motion by Mr. McDonald, the 1st section was amended by striking out all after the word "except" in the 13th line down to the word "for" in the 16th line.

On motion by Mr. Texada, the section was further amended by adding at the end the following words, to-wit : which action shall not be prescribed until twelve months after a treaty of peace between the Confederate States and the United States.

On motion of Mr. Texada, the 1st section was adopted as amended.

The 2d section was read adopted.

Sec. 3. Be it further enacted, &c., That the remedial process of attachment, provisional seizure, sequestration and injunctions, shall issue upon proper application, supported by affidavit in addition to that now required by law in such cases, that the plaintiff is in great danger of losing his debt privilege or mortgaged, or that the defendant or some other person, acting under his authority, is about to do some work or commit some act that will be prejudicial to his rights, unless process issue.

On motion by Mr. Pond, the 3d section was amended by striking therefrom the word "remedial," in the 1st line, and inserting in lieu thereof the word "compulsory," and to strike out all after the words "process of," in the 2d line, down to the word "injunction" in the 3d line, and to strike out all after the words "that the," in the 6th line, down to the defendant," in the 8th line, also in the 11th line to strike out the word "his," and to insert "the," and in the same line insert after the word "rights" the words "plaintiff."

And the 3d section was adopted as amended.

The 4th section was and adopted.

Sec. 5th. Be it further enacted, &c., That the person in the service as aforesaid shall have the right at any time within one year after his discharge therefrom, to institute legal proceedings to set aside any order, judgment or decree rendered against him in his absence as aforesaid, which he may allege in his petition to have been prejudicial to his interest, supported by affidavit, and in case the Court should set aside the judgment, order or decree so rendered in the absence of the party as aforesaid, then the Court shall proceed to render de novo such judgment as in its opinion ought

to have been rendered in the first instance, and tax the plaintiff in the first suit or proceedings with all costs.

On motion of Mr. McDonald, the 5th section was amended by inserting in the 2d line, after the word "aforesaid," the following words "or his legal representatives;" by inserting after the word "therefrom" the words "or death;" by inserting after the words "which he," 7th line, the words "or they;" by inserting after the words "in his," in the 8th line, the words "or their;" and by inserting in the 9th line, after the words "in his," the words "or their."

And the 5th section was adopted as amended.

The 6th and 7th sections were read and adopted.

On motion by Mr. Reeves, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its 2d and 3d readings, it was concurred in as amended and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

House Messages—1st Reading:

An act to carry out the distribution of \$300,000 appropriated by the State Legislature for the relief of forced and voluntary exiles from New Orleans and vicinity.

Which bill underwent its 2d reading and on its adoption at its 3d reading, on motion by Mr. Lott, it was rejected.

An act relative to the machinery and buildings of the State Penitentiary.

On motion by Mr. Pond the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its several readings, it was concurred in and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

An act to authorize the Governor to suspend the signing and issuing of Treasury notes.

On motion by Mr. McDonald, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its several readings, it was concurred in and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

An act to authorize the Treasurer to receive taxes that may be tendered him.

On motion by Mr. McDonald, this bill underwent its 1st reading, its further consideration postponed and it was ordered to lie on the table subject to call.

An act to authorize the Governor to appoint a Supreme Judge for the second Judicial District.

On motion by Mr. Lott, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its 1st and 2d readings by its title and it was ordered to be referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

An act for the relief of wounded and disabled soldiers.

On motion by Mr. Lott, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its 1st and 2d readings, and it was ordered to be referred to the committee on Militia.

An act to amend and re-enact an act entitled an act to authorize a session of the Supreme Court to be holden in the city of Shreveport and other places, approved June 18th, 1863.

On motion by Mr. McDonald, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its 1st and 2d readings by its title, and it was ordered to be referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

An act granting to the Confederate Government, during the existing war, the right to use for Government purposes, timber on public lands.

On motion by Mr. McDonald, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its 1st and 2d readings by its title, and it was ordered to be referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

An act establishing rules and articles for the government of the army and militia of the State of Louisiana.

On motion by Mr. McDonald, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its 1st and 2d readings by its title, and it was ordered to be referred to the committee on the Militia.

An act for the relief of T. J. Williams, late Sheriff of the Parish of DeSoto.

On motion by Mr. McDonald, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its 1st and 2d readings by its title, and it was ordered to be referred to the committee on Claims.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE.

Mr. Isaacson, Clerk of the House of Representatives, informed the Senate that the House had agreed to the conference asked for by the Senate in relation to the disagreeing votes of both Houses relative to Senate bill entitled:

"An act to organize the State guard."

And that the Speaker had appointed Messrs. Griffin, Kernan, Snider, Moreland and Murrell, the committee on the part of the House.

That the House had also agreed to the conference asked for, by the Senate, in relation to the disagreeing votes of both Houses relative to House bill entitled:

"An act to suspend the collection of taxes."

And that the Speaker had appointed, Messrs. Mott, Taylor of Carroll, Cotton, McEnery, and Anderson, of Madison.

That the House had concurred with amendments in Senate bill entitled:

An act to punish persons for harboring deserters.

HOUSE AMENDMENTS CONCURRED IN BY THE SENATE.

On motion by Mr. McDonald, the rules were suspended, and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the bill entitled:

An act to punish persons for harboring deserters.

The amendment of the House being to

strike out the 2d section of the bill which reads as follows :

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, &c., That any person concealing himself or avoiding military service, after such person has been regularly enrolled as a conscript by the proper officers and according to the laws of the Congress of the Confederate States, or of this State, shall be deemed and held to be a deserter according to the meaning and intent of the 1st section of this act.

On motion by Mr. Texada, the House amendment was concurred in, the 2d section stricken out and the Secretary directed to inform the House thereof.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES ON CONFERENCE.

Mr. Texada, from the committee on Conference of both Houses, in relation to the disagreeing vote of both Houses of the General Assembly to House bill entitled :

"An act to suspend the collection of taxes,"

Submitted the following report, to-wit :

The Committee of Conference to whom was referred the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on "An act to suspend the collection of taxes," respectfully report : The Committee recommends that the House recedes from its amendment, and the Committee on Conference agree to amend the Senate's amendment by inserting after the words "tax collectors" the words "to give bond and,"

[Signed] LEWIS TEXADA,

Chairman Senate Committee.

On motion by Mr. Gantt, the above report was adopted, and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

Mr. Texada, from the committee of Conference of both Houses in relation to the disagreeing votes of both Houses to Senate bill entitled :

"An act to organize the State Guard,"

Submitted the following report, to-wit :

The committee of Conference, to whom was referred the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on "An act to organize the State Guard," respectfully report that the House recedes from so much of their amendments as includes the striking out of the 6th section.

[Signed] LEWIS TEXADA,

On behalf of the Senate Com.

On motion by the same Senator, the report was adopted, and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

REPORT ON ENROLLED BILLS.

Mr. Weightman, from the committee on Enrolled bills, reported as correctly enrolled Senate bills entitled :

An act relative to Confederate and State Bonds."

An act concerning printing for the Legislative and Executive Departments.

An act to punish Confederate officers and others for impressing private property in violation of law.

An act to require the Supreme Court to hold an annual session in the town of Greensburg, La.

Joint Resolution to cancell the Bond of the Auditor.

An act to reorganize the companies in First Battalion Louisiana Cavalry and First Battalion Louisiana State Troops. and

An act to punish persons for harboring deserters.

And the Secretary was directed to request the signature of the Speaker thereto.

And he also requested the concurrence of the House in Senate bill entitled ;

An act making appropriations for the general expenses of the Senate for the year ending the 31st day of March, 1865.

SECOND READINGS.

An fact for the relief of the heirs and legal representatives of Louis Delahoussaye.

On motion by Mr. McDonald, the further consideration of this bill was postponed until next session.

An act devolving certain duties upon the Commissioner of Public Lands.

On motion by Mr. McDonald, the further consideration of this bill was postponed until next session.

An act for the disposal of runaway slaves.

On motion by Mr. Gantt, the further consideration of this bill was postponed and it was ordered to lie on the table subject to call.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE.

Mr. Isaacson, Clerk of the House of Representatives, informed the Senate that the House had agreed to the reports of both Committees of Conference of both Houses in relation to Senate bill entitled

An act to organize the State Guard.

And House bill entitled

An act to suspend the collection of taxes.

And he also informed the Senate that the Speaker of the House had signed Senate enrolled bills of the following titles, to-wit:

An act to punish Confederate officers and others for impressing private property in violation of law.

An act to punish persons for harboring deserters.

An act concerning printing for Legislative and Executive Departments of the State.

An act to organize the First Battalion Louisiana Cavalry and the First Battalion Louisiana State Troops.

An act to require the Supreme Court to hold an annual session in the town of Greensburg, La.

An act relative to Confederate and State Bonds, and

Joint Resolution to cancel the bond of the Auditor.

Which bills thereupon received the signature of the President pro tem. of the Sen-

ate and were by Mr. Weightman, on behalf of the committee on Enrolled Bills, this day submitted to His Excellency, the Governor, for his approval and signature.

SECOND READINGS. (Resumed.)

An act for the relief of R. L. Fox.

On motion by Mr. Gantt, the adverse report of the committee of the Judiciary was adopted and the bill was ordered to be indefinitely postponed.

An act to revive in part section 11 of an act entitled "An act relative to public lands," approved 21st March, 1861.

When Mr. Texada offered the following as a substitute, to-wit :

An act to increase the salary of the State Treasurer.

Which underwent its 1st and 2d readings.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened, That the salary of the State Treasurer shall be four thousand dollars.

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, &c., That this act take effect from and after its passage.

Mr. Lott moved to lay Mr. Texada's substitute on the table and on his motion he called for the yeas and nays; they were ordered and being taken resulted as follows, to-wit :

Yeas—Messrs. Barrow, Clark, Gray, Lott, Pond, Reeves and Rogers. 7 Senators.

Nays—Messrs. Coco, Fuller, Gantt, McDonald, Texada, Wall, Weeks and Weightman. 8 Senators.

So, Mr. Texada's substitute was not laid on the table.

And on his motion the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its 2d and 3d readings, and on its final passage

Mr. Lott called for the yeas and nays; they were ordered and being taken resulted as follows to-wit :

Yeas—Messrs. Gantt, McDonald, Texada, Wall, Weeks and Weightman—6 Senators.

Nays—Messrs. Barrow, Coco, Clark, Fuller, Gray, Lott, Pond, Reeves and Rogers. 9 Senators.

So the bill was rejected.

EXECUTIVE SESSION.

On motion by Mr. Weightman the Senate proceeded with closed doors, to the consideration of executive business, and after some time therein spent, the doors were reopened.

On motion by Mr. Lott, the Senate adjourned until to-morrow at 11 o'clock, A. M.

TUESDAY, February 9th, 1864.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

Present, Mr. John Moore. President pro tem. of the Senate.

Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Coco, Clark, Fuller, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Pond, Reeves, Rogers, Sanders, Taylor, Texada, Wall, Weeks and Weightman—19 Senators.

Pending the reading of the journal, on motion by Mr. Texada, its further reading was dispensed with and it was approved.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS.

Mr. H. M. Favrot, private Secretary of his Excellency Henry W. Allen, Governor of the State, delivered to the Senate the following communication, viz :

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, Shreveport, La., }
February 9th, 1864. }

To the Honorable the President

of the Louisiana Senate:

I have this day signed and approved "an act concerning printing for the Legislative and Executive Departments of the State Government," having originated in the Senate. I have signed this act under the belief that it will continue in force no longer than the duration of the war, and that so soon as peace is declared it will be repealed. A large portion of our fellow-citizens are of French extraction and cannot read the English text of our laws and legislative proceedings. It is certainly due to them that they should be fully protected in all their rights under the Constitution.

Very Respectfully,

HENRY W ALLEN,

Governor State of Louisiana.

And he delivered to the Senate several executive communications.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

On motion by Mr. Pond, leave of absence was granted to Mr. J. C. Weeks, Senator from the District composed of the Parishes of Morehouse and Ouachita.

MESSAGE TO THE HOUSE.

The Secretary informed the House that the Senate had concurred with amendment in House bill entitled :

An act to amend an act entitled an act relative to proceedings against persons in the military or naval service, approved 20th December, 1861.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE.

Mr. Isaacson, Clerk of the House of Representatives, requested the concurrence of the Senate in the following entitled House bills, viz :

An act for the relief of J. C. Wingard.

An act to establish a mining and manufacturing bureau for the State.

An act to amend and re-enact the 4th, 7th, 8th and 9th sections of an act providing for runaway slaves and establishing a general depot for the same, approved March 19th, 1857.

An act for the relief of Elizabeth Flanagan, wife of Allen Flanagan, deceased.

An act for the relief of Ellen O. Miller, wife of G. W. Miller, deceased.

An act for the relief of William Robson, of the Parish of Caddo.

Joint Resolution to rescind the former Resolution of adjournment of the Legislature.

That the House had concurred with amendments in Senate bill entitled :

"An act making an appropriation for the general expenses of the State for the year ending the 31st day of March, 1865."

That the House had concurred in Senate's bill entitled :

An act to authorize John Moore, tutor, to remove certain slaves beyond the limits of the State," and,

An act relative to the payment of salaries of State officers.

And that the House had concurred in Senate's amendment to House bill entitled :

An act to provide for the confinement of persons convicted of crimes, punishable with hard labor and confinement.

On motion by Mr. Weightman, the rules were suspended, and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the following act of impeachment of A. M. Buchanan, one of the Associate Justices of the Supreme Court, which were ordered to be spread on the Journal as follows, to-wit :

An act of impeachment of A. M. Buchanan, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of Louisiana for the First Supreme Judicial District thereof.

1st Section. Be it enacted by the House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened, That A. M. Buchanan, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of Louisiana for the First Supreme Judicial District be, and he is hereby impeached of treason and high crimes to and against the sovereign State of Louisiana.

1st. In having, since the 26th of January, 1861, in violation of his duties as a citizen of this State, of his oath of office and of his judicial duties, taken the oath of allegiance to the United States of America, the public enemy of the State of Louisiana, at a time when said enemy was openly waging war upon this State, and was in violent, unjust and illegal possession of a large portion of the territory of the same ; and secondly, in aiding and assisting the said enemy in his efforts to subjugate the people of the State of Louisiana, and destroy the government of the State, having accepted office of the said United States, the public enemy of this State, at the time the said enemy was engaged in open war against the same, the said office being that of a Justice of the Supreme Court of the State the same to which the said A. M. Buchanan had been legally elected by the people of the First Supreme Judicial District of the State, and in having exercised the said judicial authority, under the authority, and received pay therefor from the officers of the said United States, all since the said 26th January, 1861. And thirdly, in the said A. M. Buchanan, he being at the time the duly elected Justice of the supreme Court of Louisiana for the First Supreme Judicial District of the State, having

aided, assisted and comforted the public enemy of the State of Louisiana, in consorting with, consulting with and supporting with his countenance and association the officers of the United States of America since the 26th day of January, 1861, the said public enemy being, at the time, at open warfare with the State of Louisiana.

Section 2d. Be it further enacted, &c., That five members of this House be, and they are hereby charged with the management of this impeachment with the Senate of the State of Louisiana, and to request their preparation for the trial of the same at such time as may be convenient to the House of Representatives and to do all necessary acts for the prosecution of this impeachment.

Section 3d. Be it further enacted, &c., That this act take effect from and after its passage.

(Signed)

J. B. ELAM.

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

On motion by Mr. Taylor, ordered that a committee be appointed by the President in order to inform his Excellency the Governor, that articles of impeachment have been preferred by the House of Representatives against A. M. Buchanan, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, and that they are now pending before the Senate.

Whereupon the President pro tem. appointed on the committee Messrs. Taylor, Sanders and McDonald.

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES.

Mr. Reeves, from the committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred House bills entitled :

An act to amend and re-enact an act entitled an act to authorize the session of the Supreme Court to be holden in the city of Shreveport or other places, approved June 18, 1863, and

An act granting to the Confederate Government, during the existing war, the right to use for Government purposes, timber on public lands, submitted a favorable report.

And the same Senator from the same committee to whom was referred House bill entitled :

An act authorizing the Governor to appoint a Supreme Judge for the second Judicial District, reported the same back without action.

Mr. Lott, from the committee on Claims, to whom was referred House bill entitled An act for the relief of T. J. Williams, late Sheriff of the parish of DeSoto, submitted and adverse report.

Mr. Clark, from the committee on Militia, to whom was referred House bill entitled :

An act for the relief of wounded and disabled soldiers," submitted a favorable report.

And the same Senator, from the same

committee, to whom was referred House bill entitled :

An act establishing rules for the government of the army and militia of the State of Louisiana, submitted a favorable report by substitute entitled :

An act to establish rules and articles for the government of the army and militia of the State of Louisiana, which was passed to a 2d reading.

REPORT FROM A SELECT COMMITTEE.

Mr. Barrow, from the select joint committee of both Houses of the Legislature, to whom was referred the special message of His Excellency, the Governor, in relation to elections ordered by the Federals in Louisiana, submitted the following report :

The joint committee to whom was referred the message of His Excellency, the Governor, in relation to a Proclamation issued by Maj. Gen. Banks, of the United States army, for an election to organize a State Government, beg leave to report a Joint Resolution entitled " Joint Resolution relative to the illegal organization of a State Government by the public enemy and respectfully recommend its passage.

(Signed) A. BARROW

Chairman Senate Committee.

(Signed) E. F. MOREHEAD,

Chairman House Committee.

On motion by the same Senator, the report of the committee was adopted.

Mr. Taylor from the select committee appointed to wait on His Excellency, the Governor, and inform him that articles of impeachment had been preferred before the Senate by managers on behalf of the House of Representatives against A. M. Buchanan, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court for the First Supreme District of the State of Louisiana, reported that the committee had performed the duty assigned them by personally communicating the same to the Governor.

BILLS INTRODUCED WITHOUT NOTICE.

The hereinafter named Senators, without previous notice and with a suspension of the rules first granted, asked and obtained leave to introduce the following entitled bills which were disposed of as indicated below, to-wit :

Mr. Abney,

An act for the relief of Sheriffs and State Tax Collectors.

Which, on motion by the same Senator, underwent its several readings, it passed and the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

Mr. Weightman,

An act prescribing an additional oath to be taken by attorneys-at-law in the State of Louisiana.

Which, on motion by the same Senator, underwent its several readings, it passed and the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

House Messages—1st Readings :

An act for the relief of J. C. Wingard.

On motion by Mr. Texada, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its 1st and 2d Readings by its title, and it was ordered to be referred to the committee on Claims.

An act to establish a mining and manufacturing Bureau for the State.

On motion by Mr. Abney, the rules were suspended this bill underwent its several readings, it passed and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

An act to amend and re-enact the 4th, 7th, 8th, and 9th sections of an act entitled :

An act providing for runaway slaves and establishing a general depot for the same, approved March 19th, 1857.

On motion by Mr. Gantt, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its 1st and 2d readings and it was ordered to be referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

Joint Resolution to rescind the former resolution of adjournment of the Legislature.

On motion by Mr. Clark, the rules were suspended, this Joint Resolution underwent its 1st and 2d Readings and it was ordered to lie over until to-morrow.

An act for the relief of Elizabeth Flanagan, wife of Allen Flanagan deceased.

On motion by Mr. Reeves, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its second and third readings by its title and it was ordered to be referred to the committee on Militia.

An act for the relief of Ellen O. Miller, wife of G. W. Miller, deceased.

On motion by Mr. Reeves, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its 1st and 2d readings by its title and it was ordered to be referred to the committee on Militia.

An act for the relief of Wm. Robson, of the Parish of Caddo.

On motion by Mr. Gantt, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its 1st and 2d readings by its title and it was ordered to be referred to the committee on Public Works.

An act relative to the trial of persons accused of offences.

On motion by Mr. Pond, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its several readings, it was concurred in and the Secretary directed to inform the House thereof.

An act for the relief of the Assessors of the different parishes of the State east of the Mississippi river.

On motion by Mr. Wall, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its several readings, it was concurred in and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

Joint Resolution relative to increasing the pay of non-commissioned officers and

privates in the service of the Confederate States.

On motion by Mr. Texada, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its 1st reading and it was ordered to a 2d reading on to-morrow.

An act to repeal in part an act entitled "An act to authorize the transfer of a part of the Free School Accumulating Fund, of the Levee and Drainage Fund to the General Fund as a loan, approved 20th June, 1863, and for the re-transfer of the same.

On motion by Mr. Gantt, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its 1st and 2d readings and it was ordered to be referred to the committee on Public Education.

An act to establish a State Laboratory.

On motion by Mr. Gantt, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its 1st and 2d readings by its title and it was ordered to be referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

An act to provide for the printing and distribution of the acts of the present session of the General Assembly.

On motion by Mr. Gantt, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its several readings, it was concurred in and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

An act to repeal an act entitled "An act to authorize the Governor of the State of Louisiana to press into the service of the State slaves and other property for the public defence of the State during the present war, approved June 1st, 1863.

On motion by Mr. Gantt, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its 1st and 2d readings by its title and it was ordered to be referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

REPORT FROM STANDING COMMITTEES.

Mr. Clark, from the committee on Militia, to whom was referred House bills entitled:

"An act for the relief of Elizabeth Flanagan, wife of Allen Flanagan, deceased," and

An act for the relief of Ellen Miller, wife of G. W. Miller, deceased, submitted a favorable report on both bills.

Mr. Weightman, from the committee on Public Works, to whom was referred House bill entitled:

An act for the relief of William Robson, of the Parish of Caddo, submitted an adverse report.

Mr. Lott, from the committee on Claims, to whom was referred House bill entitled:

An act for the relief of J. C. Wingard, submitted a favorable report with an amendment.

SECOND READINGS. (RESUMED).

An act to provide for defraying the expenses of the State Treasurer at the seat of Government.

Section I, Be it enacted by the Senate

and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened, That the sum of two thousand five hundred dollars be and is hereby appropriated to procure a mansion, for the State Treasurer, at the seat of Government.

Mr. McDonald moved the indefinite postponement of this bill, upon which he called for the yeas and nays, they were ordered, and being taken, resulted as follows, to-wit:

Yeas—Messrs. Abney, Clark, Fuller, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Weaks and Weightman—9 Senators.

Nays—Messrs. Barrow, Coco, Pond, Reeves, Rogers, Sanders, Taylor, Texada and Wall. 9 Senators.

There being a tie the President pro tem. gave his casting vote in the affirmative, and the bill was ordered to be indefinitely postponed.

An act to provide for defraying the expenses of the Auditor of Public Accounts at the seat of Government

On motion by Mr. Texada, the further consideration of this bill was indefinitely postponed.

An act to provide for defraying the expenses of the Secretary of State at the seat of Government.

On motion by Mr. Texada, the further consideration of this bill was also indefinitely postponed.

Joint Resolution relative to the illegal organization of a State Government by the public enemy.

On motion by Mr. Barrow, the rules were suspended, these Joint Resolutions underwent their 2d and 3d readings, they were adopted, and the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

An act for the relief of T. J. Williams, late Sheriff of the parish of DeSoto.

On motion by Mr. Clark, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its 2d and 3d readings, it was concurred in and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

An act authorizing the Governor to appoint a Supreme Judge for the second Judicial District.

On motion by Mr. Barrow the further consideration of this bill was indefinitely postponed.

An act for the relief of wounded and disabled soldiers.

On motion by Mr. Gantt, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its 2d and 3d readings, it was concurred in and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

An act to amend and re-enact an act entitled:

An act to authorize the sessions of the Supreme Court to be holden in the city of Shreveport or other places, approved June 18th, 1863.

On motion by Mr. Gantt, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its 2d and 3d readings, it was concurred in and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

An act relative to the offence of disloyalty.

The 1st section being under consideration.

Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened. That any person or persons, citizens of this State, or citizens of another State or foreign State temporarily sojourning or residing within the limits of this State, who shall at any time during the existing war, say, print or write any word or words, do or perform anything, or use any appliances or influences of any description whatever, to prevent any person or persons from enlisting in the military or naval service of the State or Confederate States who may be absent from their commands without leave from returning to the same, or to encourage persons in the Military or naval service of the State or Confederate States to absent themselves without leave, or to prevent Conscripts from being duly enrolled and placed in the Military service according to the laws of this State, or Confederate States, or to prevent the peaceable or forcible execution of the laws of this State by adhering to, aiding, assisting or supporting the constitution, laws, military orders or proclamations of the United States, or any other pretended State government erected within the limits of this State contrary to the constitution and laws of the same, or to weaken and discourage the citizens of the Confederate States in their allegiance thereto, by encouraging an allegiance, assistance or support to the constitution, laws, military orders or proclamations of the United States, or any other pretended State government erected within the limits of this State, or to aid, abet or assist any person or persons doing or performing any of the things above recited, shall be deemed and held guilty of a felony, for which on due conviction, he, she or they, as the case may be, shall be confined in the State Penitentiary not less than three months nor more than five years within the discretion of the Court.

Mr. Pond moved to strike out in the 19th line the words "Confederate States," which motion did not prevail.

Mr. McDonald moved to insert in the 7th line after the word "whatever" the following word, to-wit: "with the intention," which amendment did not prevail.

On motion by Mr. Gantt the 1st section was amended by striking out in the 24th line the words "the crime of disloyalty," and inserting in lieu thereof the words "a felony."

On the adoption of the 1st section as

amended. Mr. McDonald called for the yeas and nays, they were ordered and being taken resulted as follows, to-wit:

Yeas—Messrs. Clark, Fuller, Gantt, Gray, Lott, Reeves, Sanders and Texada—8 Senators.

Nays—Messrs. Abney, Barrow, McDonald, Pond, Wall, Weaks and Weightman—7 Senators.

On his own motion Mr. Rogers was excused from voting.

So the 1st section was adopted as amended.

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, &c., That any person or persons committing the offence enumerated in the first section of this act shall be liable to be arrested by any person and confined in the jail of the Parish of Caddo, in the city of Shreveport, for safe keeping, until they can be tried in the Parish in which the offence may have been committed, or wherever delivered according to law; provided, that the accused shall have the privilege of waiving the constitutional right to be tried in the Parish in which the offence may have been committed, and electing to be tried in the Parish in which he, she, or they may be confined.

On motion of Mr. Reeves, the 2d section was amended by striking out in the 3d line the words "person and" and inserting in lieu thereof the following words, to-wit: "civil officer and after a preliminary examination before any Justice of the Peace; it found guilty shall be."

Mr. Gray moved to amend Mr. Reeves' amendment by inserting after the word "civil," the words "or military," which amendment to the amendment was not agreed to.

On motion by Mr. Lott, the 2d section was further amended by striking out in the 6th line the words "or otherwise delivered according to law."

And the 2d section was adopted as amended.

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, &c., That this act take effect from and after its passage.

Which bill underwent its 2d and 3d readings, and on its final passage Mr. Weaks called for the yeas and nays, they were ordered and being taken resulted as follows, to-wit:

Yeas—Messrs. Clark, Fuller, Gantt, Gray, Lott, Reeves, Sanders, Taylor and Texada—9 Senators.

Nays—Messrs. Abney, Barrow, McDonald, Pond, Rogers, Weaks and Weightman—8 Senators.

So the bill passed.

And on the adoption of its title on motion by Mr. Texada the following was substituted and adopted as the title of the bill:

"An act to provide for the punishment of certain crimes and offences."

On motion by Mr. Lott, the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

An act establishing rules and articles for the government of the army and militia of the State of Louisiana.

On motion by Mr. Texada, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its 2d and 3d readings, it was concurred in and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

An act granting to the Confederate Government, during the existing war, the right to use for Government purposes, timber on public lands.

The 1st section being under consideration, viz :

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened. That during the existing war the Confederate Government shall have and enjoy the right, free of charge by its officers, agents, employees, or persons with whom they may contract, to use for the purposes and wants of the Government, the timber on any of the public lands of this State."

Mr. McDonald moved to amend the 1st section by striking out in the 7th line the words "or persons with whom they may contract."

Which amendment did not prevail.

On motion of Mr. Reeves, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its 2d and 3d readings, it was concurred in and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

An act for the relief of J. C. Wingard

On motion of Mr. Lott, the amendment of the committee on Claims was adopted, being the following proviso, which is to come on at the end of the second section, viz: Provided that said sum of ten thousand dollars shall be in full satisfaction for all claims which said J. C. Wingard has against the State for the loss or destruction of the gun, known as the Wingard Gun.

And the bill underwent its 2d and 3d readings, it was concurred in as amended, and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

An act for the relief of Elizabeth Flanagan, wife of Allen Flanagan, deceased.

On motion by Mr. Clark the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its 2d and 3d readings, it was concurred in and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

An act for the relief of Ellen O. Miller, wife of G. W. Miller, deceased.

On motion by Mr. Clark, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its 2d and 3d readings, it was concurred in and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

An act for the relief of William Robson, of the parish of Caddo.

On motion by Mr. Weightman the rules

were suspended, this bill underwent its 2d and 3d readings, it was concurred in and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

Joint Resolution relative to claims against the Confederate Government.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana, in General Assembly convened. That our Senators and Representatives in Congress be and they are hereby requested to use their influence and urge upon the Confederate Government the necessity of having an officer or officers, with power to audit and pay to the citizens of Louisiana, the claims they may have against the Confederate Government for property impressed, hire of teams, wagons, &c.

On motion by Mr. Lott, the above section was amended by inserting the word "all," in the 8th line after the word "for," and On motion by the same Senator the section was further amended by inserting in the 5th line after the word "impressed," the following words, to-wit: "or destroyed by order of officers in the Confederate service and for."

On motion of Mr. Texada, these Joint Resolutions underwent their 2d and 3d readings, they were concurred in and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

Mr. Isaacson, Clerk of the House of Representatives, informed the Senate that the House had concurred in the following Senate bills, to-wit:

An act for the relief of J. J. Wheat, Sheriff of the Parish of Livingston.

An act to prohibit the seizing, taking or removing of property in this State, contrary to law.

An act to authorize E. Himenes to adopt Anna and Josephine Armstrong as his legitimate heirs.

An act to abolish the office of State Engineer.

An act to abolish the office of State Librarian.

An act to confirm certain claims to land, commonly called "Rio Hondo" claims.

An act to regulate payment from the State Treasurer.

An act to change the terms of Court in the parish of Caddo, Tenth Judicial District.

An act to emancipate William H. Brummet, a minor.

An act to authorize the Governor to appoint a Collector to receive and receipt for taxes east of the Mississippi river.

An act providing for the printing and distribution of the Journals of the Senate and House of Representatives.

Joint Resolutions relative to the illegal acts of spoliation by officers of the Confederate army.

An act to authorize certain persons to

attach themselves to any military company in the State service.

An act to authorize the Governor to raise a company of mounted men, east of the Mississippi river.

An act to provide for the punishment of certain crimes and offences.

Joint Resolution relative to the illegal organization of a State Government by the public enemy.

REPORT OF ENROLLED BILLS

Mr. Weightman, from the committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as duly enrolled Senate bills entitled :

An act to organize a State Guard.

An act to authorize E. Himenes to adopt Anna and Josephine Armstrong as his legitimate heirs.

An act for the relief of J. J. Wheat, Sheriff and Tax Collector of the Parish of Livingston.

An act relative to the payment of salaries of State officers.

An act to change the terms of Court in the Parish of Caddo, Tenth Judicial District.

An act to abolish the office of State Engineer.

An act to abolish the office of State Librarian.

An act to authorize John Moore, tutor, to remove certain slaves beyond the limits of the State.

And the Secretary was directed to request the signature of the Speaker thereto.

Subsequently the Senate was informed, through Mr. Isaacson, Clerk of the House, that the Speaker had signed the above entitled enrolled bills.

Whereupon they were signed by the President pro tem. of the Senate, and they were submitted to his Excellency the Governor, for his approval and signature, by Mr. Weightman, on the part of the committee on enrolled bills.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE.

By a message from the House of Representatives, through Mr. Isaacson, its Clerk, the signature of the President of the Senate was requested to House enrolled bills of the following titles, to-wit :

An act to suspend the collection of taxes.
An act to authorize the Governor to suspend the signing and issuing of Treasury notes.

An act relative to the machinery and buildings of the State Penitentiary.

An act to amend an act entitled an act to authorize the Governor to purchase cotton and wool cards for the benefit of the families of soldiers.

An act to amend and re-enact an act entitled an act to authorize the session of a Supreme Court to be holden in the city of Shreveport or other places, approved June 18th, 1863.

An act for the relief of wounded and disabled soldiers.

An act granting to the Confederate Government, during the existing war, the right to use for Government purposes, the timber on public land.

Which bills thereupon received the signature of the President pro tem., of the Senate, and were by Mr. Weightman, on behalf of the committee on Enrolled Bills, submitted to his Excellency the Governor, for his approval and signature.

By the same message the Senate was informed that the House had concurred in Senate bill entitled :

"An act making an appropriation for the general expenses of the State for the year ending the 31st day of March, 1865."

That the House refuses to concur in Senate's amendment to House bill entitled :

An act to amend an act entitled "an act relative to Judicial proceedings against persons in the military or naval service," approved 21st December. A. D 1861, and asked for a committee on Conference, and that the Speaker had appointed Messrs. Mott, Snider, Griffin, Pressley, Foulhouse and Elam, the committee on Conference on the part of the House.

COMMITTEE ON CONFERENCE.

On motion by Mr. Reeves the rules were suspended and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the message from the House, in regard to the last above entitled bill, and on a further motion the Senate agrees to the request of the Senate.

And the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE.

By a message from the House through Mr. Isaacson, its Clerk, the Senate was informed that the House had concurred in Senate's amendment to House bills entitled:

An act to provide for the confinement of persons convicted of crimes punishable with hard labor and confinement.

An act for the relief of J. C. Wingard.

House amendments to Senate bill.

On motion by Mr. Lott, the rules were suspended and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of House amendments to Senate bill entitled :

"An act making appropriations for the general expenses of the State for the year ending 31st March, 1865."

The amendments of the House being to add to item 2d, 3d and 4th, one thousand dollars for house rent, to strike out in item 8th one thousand dollars, and insert in lieu thereof "two thousand dollars," to add to item 10th one thousand dollars for house rent, to add five hundred dollars to item 15th, to add three hundred dollars, to item 16th, to reduce item 18th to two thousand dollars, to add one thousand for house rent of the Commissioners of the Land Office, Chief Clerk Land Office two thousand five

hundred dollars, and Assistant Clerk Land Office two thousand dollars, to increase item 25 to thirty-five hundred dollars.

To insert as item 52 for the salary of the Reporter of the Supreme Court for the present year and for the year 1865, five thousand dollars.

To insert as item 53 for appropriation to pay the expenses incurred in holding courts of enquiry and courts martial at Opelousas, in accordance with the act entitled "an act to organize the Militia," approved Jan. 23d, 1862, one thousand dollars.

Insert as item 54. To supply the deficiency in the appropriation made under an act entitled an act to appropriate \$500,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay for the hire or loss of slaves and other property lost by death or otherwise while employed on the public works within the State, approved June 28, 1863, \$200,000.

On the adoption of the above amendments Mr. Barrow called for the yeas and nays, they were ordered, and being taken resulted as follows, viz :

Yeas—Messrs. Barrow, Clark, Fuller, Gantt, Lott, McDonald, Pond, Reeves, Texada, Weaks and Weightman—11 Senators.

Nays—Messrs. Abey and Gray—2 Senators.

So the Senate agreed to said amendments.

The further amendment of the House is to add another section, to-wit :

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, &c., That all laws or parts of laws inconsistent with this act be hereby repealed.

On motion by Mr. Lott, the Senate refuses to concur in the proposed additional section.

And the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

REPORTS OF A COMMITTEE ON CONFERENCE.

Mr. Reeves, from the committee on Conference on disagreeing votes of both Houses in relation to Houses bill entitled :

"An act to amend an act entitled, An act relative to judicial proceedings against persons in the Military or Naval service," approved 21st Dec., 1861. Reported that the House committee recommends to recede from the amendments of the Senate and that Senate committee was equally divided.

The same Senator moved that the Senate recedes from its amendments, which motion was agreed to.

And the Senate refused to adopt the report of the committee on Conference.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE.

By a message from the House of Representatives, through Mr. Isaacson, Clerk, the Senate was informed that the House ask for a free conference in relation to the disagreeing votes of both Houses in relation to House bill entitled :

"An act to amend an act entitled : An act relative to judicial proceedings against persons in the military or naval service, approved 21st Dec. 1861, and that the Speaker had appointed Messrs. Mott, Griffin, Foulhouse, Cotton and Snider, the committee on the part of the House.

On motion by Mr. Texada, the rules were suspended and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the above message, when on a further motion by the same Senator, the Senate agreed to the conference asked for by the House.

And the President pro tem. appointed Messrs. Reeves, Pond and Lott, the committee on the part of the Senate, and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

RESOLUTIONS.

W. Wall submitted the following resolution which was considered by unanimous consent and agreed to.

Resolved, That the sum of one thousand dollars be and is hereby allowed to William F. Wagner, and that the sum of one thousand dollars be and is hereby allowed to Oscar Arroyo, Secretary and Assistant Secretary of the Senate, as an additional compensation for their services, the same to be payable out of the contingent fund of the Senate on their own warrant.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

Mr. H. M. Favrot, private Secretary of his Excellency Henry W. Allen, Governor, informed the Senate that his Excellency, had this day approved and signed the following bills, viz :

An act to organize the State Guard.

An act to punish persons for harboring deserters.

An act to require the Supreme Court to hold a session in the town of Shreveport, La.

An act to punish Confederate officers and others for impressing private property in violation of law.

An act to reorganize the companies in First Battalion Louisiana Cavalry and the First Battalion Louisiana State Troops.

An act relative to Confederate and State Bonds."

An act concerning printing for Legislative and Executive Departments of the State.

Joint Resolution to cancel the bond of the Auditor of Public Accounts.

And be delivered to the Senate a sealed Executive communication.

EXECUTIVE SESSION.

On motion by Mr. Reeves, the Senate proceeded with closed doors, to the consideration of Executive business, and, after some time therein spent, the doors were reopened, when on motion by the same Senator, the Senate adjourned until tomorrow at 10 o'clock, A. M.

WEDNESDAY, February 10, 1864.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

Present—Mr. Benjamin W. Pierce, Lieut. Governor, and President of the Senate.

Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Coco, Fuller, Gantt, Lott, McDonald, Pond, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Wall, Weeks, Weightman Gray, Moore and Clark—18 Senators.

The journal of yesterday was read, when on motion by Mr. Texada, its further reading was dispensed with, and it was approved.

RESOLUTIONS.

Mr. Weightman submitted the following resolution which was considered by unanimous consent and agreed to.

Resolved, That the sum of one hundred dollars be allowed to E. W. Blake, Journal clerk of the Senate, for the bringing up the journals of the Senate after the adjournment payable out of the contingent fund of the Senate, on the warrant of the Secretary, after the completion of the work.

The same Senator submitted the following resolution which was considered by unanimous consent and agreed to.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Senate of the State of Louisiana do return their thanks to Judge John Moore, President pro tem. of the Senate, for the able, just and impartial manner in which he has discharged his duties as presiding officer of this body.

Mr. McDonald submitted the following resolution which was considered by unanimous consent and agreed to.

Resolved, That the sum of fifty dollars each be allowed to the several Clergymen who have opined the proceedings of the Senate with prayers, the same to be paid out of the contingent fund of the Senate, on their own warrants.

Mr. Barrow submitted the following resolution which was considered by unanimous consent and agreed to.

Resolved, That the Chairman of the Committee on Enrollment of the Senate, be allowed double compensation for his services for the present session, the same to be paid out of the contingent fund of the Senate, on his own warrant.

Mr. Clark submitted the following resolution which was considered by unanimous consent and agreed to.

Resolved, That the Auditor of Public Accounts be and he is hereby authorized to pay to the proprietor of the Shreveport News, the amount due him for publishing the journal of the Senate from this date to the conclusion of the same, at the rate of one dollar and fifty cents per hundred words, the same to be paid out of the contingent fund of the Senate.

The same Senator submitted the following resolution which was considered by unanimous consent and agreed to.

Resolved, That Master Sidney Kirby be

paid the sum of one hundred dollars for his services as page of the Senate, and Master Robert Her, be paid the sum of thirty-five dollars for his services as temporary page of the Senate, to be paid out of the contingent fund of the Senate.

Mr. Moore submitted the following resolution which was considered by unanimous consent and agreed to.

Resolved, that the Secretary be directed to cause one hundred copies of the list of Acts and Joint Resolutions passed at the present session of the Legislature, printed for the use of the Senate, and that the sum of fifty dollars or so much thereof as may be necessary, be appropriated out of the contingent fund of the Senate to that effect, to be drawn on the warrant of the Secretary.

REPORT FROM A STANDING COMMITTEE.

Mr. Reeves from the committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred House bill entitled :

"An act to amend and re-enact the 5th, 7th, 8th, and 9th sections of an act providing for runaway slaves, and establishing a general depot for the same," approved March 19th, 1857.

An act to establish a State Laboratory, submitted a favorable report.

And the same Senator from the same committee to whom was referred House bill entitled :

"An act to repeal an act entitled an act to authorize the Governor of the State of Louisiana to press into the service of the State, slaves and other property, for the public defense of the State during the present war, approved Jan. 1st 1863.

Mr. Clark from the committee on Auditing and supervising the expenses of the Senate, submitted the following Joint resolution, which underwent its several readings and it was adopted.

Joint resolution providing for the payment of the contingent expenses of the Senate.

Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened, That the sum of five thousand nine hundred and eighty-three dollars be appropriated out of the contingent fund of the Senate, in order to pay and defray the contingent expenses of the Senate at the first session of the Tenth Legislature, in payment of the following bills, numbered from No: 1 to No. 13, viz :

To Shreveport News, No. 1	\$1808,00
" Phelps & Co. " 2	323,00
" Caddo Gazette " 3	284,00
" A. L. Mershon " 4	245,00
" John M. Carr " 5	100,00
" Geo. H. Hubbard " 6	78,00
" South-Western " 7	34,00
" Dempser Blackman " 8	\$32,00
" " " 9	3,50
" Shreveport post office " 10	30,00

To Thomas H. Morris	" 11	30.00
" E. & B. Jacobs	" 12	10.00
" J. W. Mahle	" 13	6.00

\$2986.00

On motion by Mr. Gantt, the report of the committee was adopted, and the Secretary was directed to request the signature of the Speaker of the House thereto.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE.

Mr. Isaacson, Clerk of the House, requested the return to the House of Senate bill entitled :

"An act to provide for the punishment of certain crimes and offences."

And he requested the concurrence of the Senate in House bill entitled :

An act to provide for the payment of members, officers and contingent expenses of the General Assembly.

An act for the relief of Tom Bynum, State Printer.

An act to authorize the Governor to call into the State service free persons of color.

An act to provide for the election of a town constable in the town of Opelousas.

An act authorizing the Governor to arrange with the Confederate Government authorities for the issuing of provisions and other necessities, of the families of persons in the military and naval service.

An act to authorize litigants in the parishes east of the Mississippi river, to take and file the affidavit required by the Act entitled :

"An act relative to proceedings, in courts of Justice in this State," approved June 9th, 1863.

An act authorizing Jefferson J. Guice, of the parish of DeSoto, to adopt the minor, George W. Guice and Martha M. Jordan, of the parish of DeSoto.

Joint resolution of thanks.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF FREE CONFERENCE.

Mr. Reeves, from the committee of free conference of both Houses in regard to the disagreeing votes of both Houses to House bill entitled :

An act to amend an act entitled An act relative to judicial proceedings against persons in the military or naval service, approved 21st December, 1861, submitted the following report, to-wit :

The Senate agree to recede from its amendments to the 1st section. And the House amends the Senate's amendment by adding the word "sequestration" to the 3d section.

On motion by Mr. Gantt, the report of the committee was adopted and the Secretary was directed.

RETURN OF A BILL TO THE HOUSE.

On motion by Mr. Lott, and in compliance with the request of the House, the Secretary was directed to return to the

House of Representatives Senate bill concurred in by the House on yesterday entitled "An act to provide for the punishment of certain crimes and offences."

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

House Messages—1st Readings :

An act for the relief of Tom Bynum, State Printer.

On motion by Mr. Barrow the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its 1st and 2d readings, and the 1st section was then taken up.

Section. 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened, That the sum of seven thousand dollars be allowed and paid to Tom Bynum, on his own warrant, out of any money in the State Treasury not otherwise appropriated, in payment for printing the journal and acts of the session of the Legislature held at Opelousas in December, 1863, and January 1863.

On motion by Mr. Barrow, the 1st section was amended by striking out in the 3d line the word "seven" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "five."

And the 1st section was adopted as amended.

The 2d section was read and adopted.

And the bill underwent its 2d and 3d readings and it was concurred in as amended, and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

An act to provide for the payment of the members, officers and contingent expenses of the General Assembly.

On motion by Mr. McDonald, this bill underwent its 1st and 2d readings and it was considered.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened, That the sum of fifteen thousand dollars be and the same is hereby appropriated out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of paying the members of the Senate and House of Representatives, the mileage and per diem to which they are respectively entitled, to pay the officers of the Senate and House of Representatives and to pay the contingent expenses of the General Assembly, the same to be paid by the Treasurer upon the warrant of the Auditor of Public Accounts.

On motion by Mr. McDonald, the 1st section was amended by striking out in the 2d line the word "fifteen" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "twenty-five."

And the 1st section was adopted as amended.

The 2d section was read and adopted.

On motion by Mr. McDonald, this bill underwent its 2d and 3d readings, it was concurred in as amended and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

An act to authorize the Governor to call into the State service free persons of color.

On motion by Mr. Moore the rules were suspended and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of said bill.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened, That the Governor of this State be and he is hereby authorized to call into the service of this State all free men of color, resident in this State, between the ages of sixteen and fifty-five, not physically and mentally disabled, and to place them in such branches of the service as he may deem compatible with their civil status.

And the 1st section was adopted.

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, &c., That to effect this, the Governor be authorized to adopt whatever system of enrollment he may deem most expedient.

And the second section was adopted.

Section 3. Be it further enacted, &c., That when said free persons of color shall have been called into the service, they shall be subjected to the same rules and regulations, and shall receive the same compensations as other persons in the same branches of the service.

And the third section was adopted.

Section 4. Be it further enacted, &c., That the Governor be and he is hereby authorized to transfer said persons of color to the Confederate Government whenever the enrollment of said persons shall have been completed: provided said persons of color shall be exempt from said service by putting an able-bodied slave in his place and stead.

Mr. Gantt moved to strike out the proviso in the section, which was not agreed to and the 4th section was adopted.

Section 5. Be it further enacted, &c., That this act take effect from and after its passage.

On motion by Mr. Moore, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its 2d and 3d readings, and on final passage Mr. Gantt called for the yeas and nays; they were ordered and being taken resulted as follows, to-wit:

Yeas—Messrs. Abney, Cœco, Clark, Fuller, Lott, Moore, Reeves, Rogers, Sanders and Texada. 10 Senators.

Nays—Messrs. Barrow, Gantt, Gray, Taylor and Weightman. 5 Senators.

So the bill passed.

And the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

An act authorizing the Governor to arrange with the Confederate authorities for the issuing of provisions and other necessities for the families of persons in the military or naval service.

On motion by Mr. Texada, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its several readings, it was concurred in and the Sec-

retary was directed to inform the House thereof.

An act to provide for the election of a Town Constable in the town of Opelousas.

On motion by Mr. Gantt, this bill was ordered to be rejected.

SECOND READINGS.

Joint Resolution to rescind the former resolution of adjournment of this Legislature.

Resolved, That the resolution fixing the date of the adjournment sine die of the General Assembly be and the same is hereby rescinded and that the said adjournment be fixed for Saturday, 13th instant, at 12 o'clock, M.

On motion by Mr. Texada, the above Joint Resolution was amended by striking out the words "Saturday, 13," and inserting in lieu thereof "to-morrow, 11th."

And Joint Resolution as amended underwent its 2d and 3d readings, it was concurred in and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

An act to authorize the Treasurer of the State to issue change Treasury notes.

On motion by Mr. Texada, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its 2d and 3d readings, it passed and the Secretary was directed to request the concurrence of the House therein.

On motion by Mr. Gantt, leave was granted him to reconsider the vote given on yesterday on the indefinite postponement of House bill entitled

An act authorizing the Governor to appoint a Supreme Judge for the second Judicial District.

The reconsideration being granted, the bill was taken up at its 2d reading.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana, in General Assembly convened, That the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, be and he is hereby authorized and empowered to appoint some competent and discreet person Judge of the Supreme Court for the second supreme judicial district, in the place of Judge Albert Duffel, deceased: whose term of office shall continue until such time as an election can be held in said supreme judicial district.

On motion by Mr. Gantt, this bill underwent its 2d and 3d readings, and on its final passage Mr. Barrow called for the yeas and nays, they were ordered, and being taken, resulted as follows, to-wit:

Yeas—Messrs. Clark, Fuller, Gantt, Gray, Lott, Reeves, Rogers, Sanders, Taylor, and Texada. 10 Senators.

Nays—Messrs. Abney, Barrow, McDonald Pond and Weightman. 5 Senators.

So the bill passed.

And the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

An act prescribing an additional oath to

be taken by Attorneys at Law in the State of Louisiana.

The question being on the amendment of the House being to insert in the 15th line of the 1st section, after the word 'personal' before the word "certificate" and to strike out the 3d section.

On motion by Mr. Weightman, the House amendment was concurred in, and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

An act to amend and re-enact the 4th, 7th, 8th, and 9th sections of an act entitled :

An act providing for runaway slaves and establishing a general depot for the same, approved March 19th, 1857.

On motion by Mr. Abney, the rules were suspended this bill underwent its several readings, it passed and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

An act to establish a State Laboratory.

On motion by Mr. Reeves, the rules were suspended, this bill underwent its several readings, it was concurred in and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

An act to repeal an act entitled "An act to authorize the Governor of the State of Louisiana to press into the service of the State slaves and other property for the public defence of the State during the present war, approved June 1st, 1863.

On motion by Mr. Reeves, the further consideration of this bill was also indefinitely postponed.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE.

Mr. Isaacson, clerk of the House of Representatives, informed the Senate that the House had concurred in Senate's amendments to House joint resolution, extending the session of this Legislature until tomorrow at 12 o'clock, M.

Joint resolution relative to claims against the Confederate government.

An act for the relief of Tom Bynum, State Printer.

That the House had also concurred in Senate bill entitled :

An act for the relief of Sheriffs and State Tax Collectors, and with amendments in Senate bill entitled :

An act prescribing an additional oath to be taken by attorneys-at-law in the State of Louisiana.

And he requested the signature of the President of the Senate to House enrolled bills entitled :

An act to establish rules and articles for the government of the army and militia of the State of Louisiana.

An act to establish a mining and manufacturing Bureau for the State.

An act to amend the 4th, 7th, 8th, and 9th sections of an act providing for runaway slaves, and establishing a general depot for the same, approved March 19th, 1857.

Joint resolution relative to the contin-

gent expenses of the House of Representatives for the present session.

An act to provide for the payment of the members, officers and contingent expenses of the General Assembly.

Joint resolution relative to claims against the Confederate government.

An act authorizing the Governor to appoint a Supreme Judge for the second Judicial District.

An act to establish a State Laboratory.

An act to authorize the Governor to call into the State service free persons of color.

An act to amend an act entitled :

An act relative to judicial proceedings against persons in the military or naval service, approved 21st Dec. 1861.

An act for the relief of Sheriffs and State Tax Collectors.

An act to provide for the printing and distribution of the acts of the present session of the General Assembly.

An act for the relief of the Assessors of the different parishes of this State east of the Mississippi river.

An act for the relief of Ellen O. Miller, wife of G. W. Miller, deceased.

An act for the relief of Elizabeth Flanagan, wife of Allen Flanagan deceased.

An act for the relief of J. C. Wingard.

An act for the relief of Wm. Robson, of the Parish of Caddo.

An act for the relief of T. J. Williams, late Sheriff of the parish of DeSoto.

An act to provide for the confinement of persons convicted of crimes, punishable with hard labor and confinement.

Which bills thereupon received the signature of the President of the Senate, and were, by the Secretary, transmitted to the House of Representatives.

REPORTS OF ENROLLED BILLS.

Mr. Weightman, from the committee on enrolled bills, reported as correctly enrolled Senate bills of the following titles to-wit :

An act for the relief of Sheriffs and State Tax Collectors.

An act to regulate payment from the State Treasury.

An act to confirm certain claims to land, commonly called Rio Hondo claims.

An act to prohibit the seizing, taking or removing of property in the State contrary to law.

An act to emancipate William H. Brummet a minor.

An act to authorize the Governor to appoint a Collector to receive and receipt for taxes East of the Mississippi river.

An act to authorize the Governor to raise a company of mounted men East of the Mississippi river.

An act to authorize certain persons to attach themselves to any company in the State service.

An act providing for the distribution of

the journals of the Senate and House of Representatives.

An act making appropriations for the general expenses of the State for the year ending the 31st day of March, 1865.

Joint resolution relative to illegal acts of spoliation by officers of the Confederate States Army.

Joint resolution relative to illegal organization of a State Government by the Federal authorities.

An act to provide for the punishment of certain crimes and offences.

An act prescribing an additional oath to be taken by Attorneys at Law in the State of Louisiana.

Which bills received the signature of the President of the Senate, and were, by Mr. Weightman, on the part of the committee on enrolled bills, submitted to his Excellency, the Governor, for his approval and signature.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE.

By a message from the House, through Mr. Isaacson, its clerk, the Senate was informed that the House had concurred in Senate bill entitled :

An act to provide for the payment of members, officers and contingent expenses of the General Assembly.

Joint resolution relative to the adjournment of the General Assembly.

An act for the relief of Tom Bynum, State Printer.

Joint resolutions relative to claims against the Confederate government.

And that the House has adopted the report of the committee of free conference in regard to the disagreeing votes of both Houses in relation to House bill entitled :

An act to amend an Act entitled :

An act relative to judicial proceedings against persons in the military or naval service, approved 21st Dec. 1861.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

Mr. H. M. Favrot, private secretary of his Excellency, the Governor, informed the Senate that the Governor had this day signed and approved Senate bills of the following titles to-wit :

An act relative to the payment of salaries of State officers.

An act to authorize the Governor to raise a company of mounted men East of the Mississippi river.

An act providing for the printing and distribution of the journal of the Senate and House of Representatives.

An act to authorize the Governor to appoint a collector to receive and receipt for Taxes East of the Mississippi river.

An act to regulate payments from the State Treasury.

Joint resolution relative to the illegal organization of a State government by the public enemy.

An act to emancipate William Harrison Brummet, a minor.

An act to authorize E. Himenes to adopt Anna and Josephine Armstrong, as his legitimate heirs.

An act to authorize John Moore, Tutor, to remove certain slaves beyond the limits of the State.

An act to abolish the office of the State Engineer.

An act to abolish the office of the State Librarian.

An act to prohibit the seizing, taking or removal of any property in the State contrary to law.

Joint resolution relative to illegal acts of spoliation by officers of the Confederate States army.

An act to change the term of holding court in the parish of Caddo, 10th judicial district.

An act to authorize certain persons to attach themselves to any military company in the State service.

An act for the relief of John J. Wheat, Sheriff of the parish of St. Helena.

An act making appropriations for the General Expenses of the State, for the year ending the 31st day of March, 1865.

An act to confirm certain claims to land commonly called Rio Hondo claims.

And he delivered to the Senate on the part of his Excellency, the Governor, a sealed Executive communication.

EXECUTIVE SESSION.

On motion by Mr. Reeves, the Senate proceeded with closed doors, to the consideration of Executive business, and, after some time therein spent, the doors were reopened, when on motion by Mr. Clark the Senate adjourned until to-morrow at 9 o'clock, A. M.

THURSDAY, February 11, 1864.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

Present—Mr. Benjamin W. Pierce, Lieut. Governor, and President of the Senate.

Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Coco, Fuller, Gantt, Lott, McDonald, Pond, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Wall, Weeks, Weightman, Gray, Moore and Clark—18 Senators.

The proceedings were opened with prayer offered by Rev. Mr. T. W. Moseley.

On motion by Mr. Wall, the reading of the journal of yesterday was dispensed with and it was approved.

DOCUMENTS WITHDRAWN.

On motion by Mr. Clark, leave was granted him to withdraw from the files of the Senate, the documents annexed to Senate bill entitled :

"An act to authorize the Treasurer to pay to the Branch of the Citizens' Bank certain sums due by the State to the Citizens' Bank."

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE.

Mr. Isaacson, Clerk of the House of Representatives, requested the concurrence of the Senate in House bills entitled :

"An act to authorize litigants in the parishes east of the Mississippi river to take and file the affidavit required by the act entitled, an act relative to proceedings in courts of justice in this State, approved June 19, 1863."

An act authorizing Jefferson J. Guice, of the parish of DeSoto, to adopt the minor, George W. Guice and Martha Jordan, of the parish of DeSoto. Joint resolution of thanks.

He informed the Senate that the House had concurred in Senate bill entitled,

An act to authorize the Treasurer of the State to issue change notes.

HOUSE BILLS CONCURRED IN.

On motion by Mr. Clark, the rules were suspended and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of House bill entitled

An act authorizing Jefferson J. Guice, of the parish of DeSoto, to adopt the Minors George W. Guice and Martha M. Jordan of the parish of DeSoto.

Which underwent its several readings, it was concurred in and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

On motion by Mr. Pond, the rules were suspended and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of House bill entitled :

An act to authorize litigants in the parishes east of the Mississippi river, to take and file the affidavit required by the Act entitled :

"An act relative to proceedings in courts of Justice in this State," approved June 9th, 1863.

Which underwent its several readings, it was concurred in, and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

On motion by Mr. Reeves, the rules were suspended, and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of House Joint Resolution entitled "Joint Resolution of Thanks," which underwent its several readings, it was concurred in, and the Secretary was directed to inform the House thereof.

REPORT OF AN ENROLLED BILL.

Mr. Weightman from the committee on enrolled bills, reported as correctly enrolled, Senate bill entitled :

"An act to authorize the Treasurer of the State to issue change Treasury notes," and the Secretary was directed to request the signature of the Speaker thereto.

RESOLUTION.

Mr. Moore submitted the following joint resolution, which, after a suspension of the rules, underwent its several readings and it was adopted :

Resolved, That a joint committee of three members of the Senate and—members of the House be appointed to wait on his

Excellency the Governor, and inform him that the two Houses had disposed of the business before them, and were ready to receive any communication he may be pleased to make them.

EXECUTIVE SESSION.

On motion by Mr. Moore, the Senate proceeded with closed doors to the consideration of Executive business, and after some time therein spent, the doors were reopened.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE.

Mr. Isaacson, Clerk of the House, informed the Senate that the Speaker of the house had signed Senate bill entitled

An act authorizing the Governor to arrange with the Confederate Government authorities for the issuing of provisions and other necessities, for the families of persons in the military and naval service.

An act for the relief of sheriffs and tax collectors.

An act prescribing an additional oath to be taken by Attorneys at Law in the State of Louisiana.

An act to authorize the Treasurer of the State to issue change notes.

Which bills received the signature of the President of the Senate, and were by Mr. Weightman, submitted to his Excellency, the Governor, for his approval and signature.

By the same message the signature of the President of the Senate was requested to House enrolled bills entitled

An act authorizing the Governor to arrange with the Confederate authorities for the issuing of provisions and other necessities for the families of persons in the military or naval service.

An act to authorize litigants in the parishes east of the Mississippi river to take and file the affidavit required by the act entitled

"An act relative to proceedings in courts of justice in this State, approved June 19, 1863."

An act authorizing Jefferson J. Guice, of the parish of DeSoto, to adopt the minors George W. Guice and Martha M. Jordan of the parish of DeSoto, and Joint Resolution of thanks.

He informed the Senate that the House had concurred in Senate's resolution for the appointment of a joint committee to wait on his Excellency, the Governor, in order to inform him that the Legislature was ready to adjourn sine die.

And that the Speaker had appointed Messrs. Mott, Jamison, Fonlhouze, Snider of Bossier and Head, the committee on the part of the house.

REPORT FROM SELECT COMMITTEES.

Mr. Moore, chairman of the joint committee of both houses appointed to wait on his excellency the Governor, and inform him

that the General Assembly was ready to adjourn, inform the Senate that the committee had performed that duty and that his Excellency the Governor, had only a message to communicate to the Senate.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

Mr. H. M. Favrot, private Secretary of his Excellency, the Governor, informed the Senate that the Governor had this day approved and signed the following Senate bills, viz :

An act for the relief of Sheriffs and State tax collectors.

An prescribing an additional oath to be taken by attorneys at law in the State of Louisiana.

An act to authorize the Treasurer of the State to issue change Treasury notes.

An act to provide for the punishment of certain crimes and offences.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE.

By a message from the House of Representatives, through Mr. Isaacson, its Clerk, the Senate was informed that the House had no further communication to make, and was ready to adjourn sine die.

Mr. John Moore, the President pro tem, returned his thanks to the Senate in answer to the resolution adopted on yesterday, in an eloquent and patriotic manner.

On motion by Mr. Reeves, the Senate adjourned sine die.

W. F. WAGNER,

Secretary of the Senate.

LOUISIANA LEGISLATURE.

EXECUTIVE JOURNAL OF THE SENATE.

SEVENTH LEGISLATURE.

—:O:—

SHREVEPORT, January 23d 1864.

The Senate met in Executive session.

Present—Hon. Henry W. Hyams, Lieut. Governor and President of the Senate—

Messrs. Abney, Butler, Clark, Coco, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Moore, Reeves, Rogers, Texada Wall, Weeks and Weightman—15 Senators.

The President submitted to the Senate the following communication from his Excellency, the Governor, to-wit:

No. 1.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, Shreveport, La., }
January 23d, 1864. }

To the Honorable the President and

Members of the Louisiana Senate:

GENTLEMEN:—Since the close of your last session I have nominated and appointed the following persons, subject to the concurrence of your honorable body, viz:

A. L. Tucker, Notary Public for the parish of St. Mary, July 15th, 1863.

J. P. Harris, Notary Public for the parish of Caddo, July 20th, 1863.

J. J. Harris, Notary Public for the parish of Bienville, Nov. 17th, 1863.

Victor Burthe, Commissioner to distribute the relief fund, according to Act No. 24, approved June 18th, 1863, Nov. 28th 1863.

Joseph M. Moore, Register of Land Office at Opelousas, January 2d, 1864.

Felix Metoyer, Receiver of Public moneys for the North-Western District of Louisiana, at Natchitoches. Oct. 6th 1863.

* Also a reprieve to Joseph Frank, who was convicted in the district court in the parish of Caddo on the 16th day of November, 1863, and sentenced to imprisonment for forty days and to fine of two hundred dollars, and to pay cost of suit, releasing him from imprisonment upon paying the fine and cost of suit.

Patterson Columbus Rogers, Sheriff of

the parish Natchitoches vice J. W. Norris, deceased, July 2d, 1863.

(Signed) THOMAS O. MOORE,
Governor.

On motion by Mr. Moore, the rules were suspended and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the following nominations and appointments, to-wit:

J. P. Harris, to be Notary Public in and for the parish of Caddo.

Joseph M. Moore, to be Register of the Land Office at Opelousas.

Felix Metoyer, to be Receiver of public moneys for the North-Western District of Louisiana at Natchitoches.

Patterson Columbus Rogers, to be Sheriff of the Parish of Natchitoches, vice J. W. Norris, deceased.

Victor Burthe, to be Commissioner, to distribute the relief fund, according to Act No. 24, approved June 10th, 1863.

And on a further motion by the same Senator to confirm and approve of said nominations, the roll was called, and the following was the result of the vote, to-wit:

Yeas—Messrs. Abney, Butler, Coco, Clark, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Moore, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Wall, Weeks and Weightman—15 Senators.

Nays—None.

So the above nominations and appointments were unanimously confirmed.

On motion by Mr. Weightman, the injunction of secrecy was removed so far as the action of the Senate and the nominations just confirmed were concerned.

On motion the nominations of A. L. Tucker and J. J. Harris, and the reprieve of Joseph Franks, were ordered to lie over under the rules.

On motion the Executive session adjourned, and the doors were ordered to be reopened.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 27th, 1864.

The Senate met in Executive session.

Present—Mr. Lewis Texada, in the

chair—

Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Coco, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Moore, Pond, Reeves, Rogers, Wall, Weeks and Weightman—15 Senators.

The journal of the last Executive session was read and approved.

On motion by Mr. Gantt, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the nomination of A. L. Tacker, to be Notary Public in and for the parish of St. Mary, on a call of the roll, the following was the result of the vote, to-wit :

Yeas—Mr. Lewis Texada, in the chair, and Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Coco, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Moore, Pond, Reeves, Rogers, Wall, Weeks and Weightman—15.

Nays—None.

Consequently said nomination was unanimously confirmed.

On motion by Mr. Abney, the nomination of J. J. Harris, to be Notary Public in and for the parish of Bienville, was ordered to lie over.

On motion of Mr. Lott, the reprieve granted to Joseph Frank who was convicted in the District out of the parish of Caddo, on the 16th day of November, 1863, and sentenced to imprisonment for forty days and to a fine of two hundred dollars and to pay costs of suit, releasing him from imprisonment upon paying the fine and costs was also ordered to lie over.

On motion by Mr. Lott, the Executive session adjourned, and the doors were ordered to be re-opened.

THURSDAY, Jan. 28th, 1864.

The Senate met in Executive session.

Present—Mr. John Moore, President pro tem. of the Senate, in the chair—

Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Clark, Coco, Gantt, Gray, Lott, Pond, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Weeks and Weightman.—14 Senators.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

The President pro tem. laid before the Senate the following communication from his Excellency, the Governor, to-wit :

No. 2.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, Shreveport La. }
January 28th, 1864. }

To the Hon. the President and

Members of the Louisiana Senate,

Gentlemen :—I have the honor to nominate and by and with the advice of the Senate to appoint James B. Smith, Judge of the Fifth Judicial District court of the State of Louisiana, vice C. C. Ave y resigned.

Respectfully, your ob't serv't.

HENRY W. ALLEN,

Governor State of Louisiana.

On motion by Mr. Pond, the rules were suspended and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the above nomination, and on a further motion to confirm the same,

the roll was called and the following was the result of the vote, to-wit :

Yeas—Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Clark, Coco, Gantt, Gray, Lott, Moore, Pond, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Weeks and Weightman—14 Senators.

Nays—None.

So the nomination was unanimously confirmed.

On motion by Mr. Pond, the injunction of secrecy was removed on the action of the Senate in regard to said nomination.

On motion by Mr. Clark, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the reprieve granted by his Excellency. Thomas O. Moore, ex-Governor of this State, to Joseph Frank, who was convicted in the district court, of the parish of Caddo, on the 16th day of November, 1863, and sentenced to imprisonment for forty days and to a fine of two hundred dollars, and to pay costs of suit, releasing him from the imprisonment upon paying the fine and costs.

And on motion by Mr. Lott, to concur in the same, the roll was called and the following was the result of the vote, viz :

Yeas—Messrs. Abney, Clark, Coco, Lott, Moore, Texada and Weeks—8 Senators.

Nays—Messrs. Barrow, Gantt, Gray, Pond, Rogers and Weightman—6 Senators.

So the Senate concurred in the reprieve.

On motion by Mr. Lott, the injunction of secrecy was removed on the action of the Senate on said seprieve.

On motion by Mr. Gantt, the Executive session adjourned, and the doors were ordered to be re-opened.

FRIDAY, Jan. 29th, 1864.

The Senate met in Executive session.

Present—Mr. Lewis Texada, in the chair.

Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Clark, Coco, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Moore, Pond, Reeves, Rogers, Wall, Weeks and Weightman—16 Senators.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

The Chair laid before the Senate the following communication from his Excellency the Governor, to-wit :

No. 3.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, }
Shreveport, La., Jan. 29th, 1864. }

To the Honorable the President

and Members of the Senate :

I hereby nominate and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint Edward C. Generes, Roger B. Marshall, as Notaries Public for the parish of Avoyelles.

John F. Stephens, as Notary Public for the parish of Bienville.

Vincent Walker as Notary Public for the parish of Bossier.

James Welch, W. A. Grice, as Notaries Public for the parish of St. Helena.

Respectfully, your ob't serv't.

HENRY W. ALLEN,

Governor State of Louisiana.

On motion by Mr. Gray, the rules were suspended and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the nominations and appointments contained in the above communication, and on motion by Mr. Lott, to confirm the same, the roll was called, and the following was the result of the vote to-wit :

Yeas—Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Coco, Clark, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Moore, Pond, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Wall, Weak and Weightman. 16 Senators.

Nays—None.

Consequently the above nominations and appointments were unanimously confirmed.

On motion by Mr. Moore, the injunction of secrecy was removed on the action of the Senate in regard to the nominations.

On motion by the same Senator, the Executive session adjourned, and the doors were ordered to be re-opened.

SATURDAY, January 30th, 1864.

The Senate met in Executive session.

Present—Mr. John Moore, President pro tem. of the Senate, in the chair.

Messrs. Barrow, Butler, Clark, Coco, Gantt, Gray, Lott, Pond, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Wall, Weak and Weightman. 15 Senators.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

The President pro tem. laid before the Senate the following communication from his Excellency, the Governor, to-wit :

No. 4.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, }

Shreveport, Jan. 30th, 1864. }

To the Honorable the President and

Members of the Louisiana Senate :

I hereby nominate and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate appoint Henry Hawford, Notary Public in and for the parish of East Feliciana.

J. B. Norman, Notary Public in and for parish of DeSoto.

Respectfully, your ob't. serv't.

HENRY W. ALLEN,

Governor State of Louisiana.

On motion by Mr. Pond, the rules were suspended and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the appointments in said communication contained, and on motion by Mr. Clark to confirm the same, the roll was called and following was the result of the vote, to-wit :

Yeas—Mr. Moore in the chair, and

Messrs. Barrow, Butler, Coco, Clark, Gantt, Gray, Lott, Pond, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Wall, Weak and Weightman. 15 Senators.

Nays. None.

Consequently the nominations were unanimously confirmed.

On motion by Mr. Weak, the injunction of secrecy was removed on the action of the Senate in regard to these nominations.

On motion by Mr. Lott, the Executive session adjourned, and the doors were ordered to be re-opened.

MONDAY, February 1st, 1864.

The Senate met in Executive session.

Present—Mr. John Moore, President pro tem. of the Senate, and

Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Butler, Clark, Coco, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Pond, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Wall, Weak and Weightman—17 Senators.

The journal of last Saturday was read and approved.

The President pro tem. laid before the Senate the following communication from his Excellency, the Governor, to-wit :

No. 5.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, }

Shreveport, February 1st, 1864. }

To the Honorable the President and

Members of the Louisiana Senate :

I hereby nominate and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate appoint Paul Eugene Guillaman, John McDonald, William S. Cushman, Joel H. Sandoz, Geo. W. Marsh, John F. Smith, H. W. Robinet, John F. Morrough, Notaries Public in and for the parish of St. Landry,

Joseph Simmons, Dawsey Lewis, Notaries Public in and for the Parish of Washington.

Frederick Williams, Notary Public in and for the parish of Natchitoches.

Respectfully.

HENRY W. ALLEN,

Governor of the State of Louisiana.

On motion by Mr. Gantt, the rules were suspended and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the nominations of Notaries Public in and for the Parish of St. Landry, and on motion by Mr. Butler, the rules were also suspended and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of Notary Public in and for the parish of Natchitoches, and on a further motion to confirm the same the roll was called and the following was the result of the vote to-wit :

Yeas—Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Butler, Clark, Coco, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Moore, Pond, Rogers, Reeves, Texada, Wall, Weak and Weightman—17 Senators.

Nays—None.

So the above nominations were unanimously confirmed.

On motion by Mr. Wall, the nomination of Notaries Public in and for the parish of Washington were ordered to lie over under the rules.

On motion by Mr. Gantt the injunction of secrecy was removed so far as the action of the Senate on the confirmation of the above appointments was concerned.

On motion by the same Senator, the Executive session adjourned and the doors were ordered to be reopened.

TUESDAY, February 2d, 1864.

The Senate met in Executive session.

Present—Mr. John Moore, President pro tem. of the Senate.

Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Clark, Coco, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Pond, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Wall, Weeks and Weightman—16 Senators.

On motion by Mr. Gray, the reading of the journal of yesterday was dispensed with and it was approved.

The president pro tem. submitted to the Senate the following communication from his Excellency, the Governor, to-wit :

No. 6.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, Shreveport, La. }

February 2d, 1864. }

To the Hon. the President and

Members of Louisiana Senate :

I hereby nominate and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint Thomas W. Scott, Abel J. Norwood, John McKeeney, of East Feliciana, John N. Evans, James Howell, of West Feliciana, the Board of Administrators of the Insane Asylum of the State of Louisiana.

Respectfully, your ob't. serv't.

HENRY W. ALLEN,

Governor State of Louisiana.

On motion by Mr. Pond, the rules were suspended and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of said nominations, and on a further motion to confirm the same the roll was called and the following was the result of the vote, to-wit :

Yeas—Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Coco, Clark, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Moore, Pond, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Wall, Weeks and Weightman—16 Senators.

Nays—None.

So the above nominations were unanimously confirmed.

The President pro tem. also laid before the Senate the following communication from his Excellency the Governor, to-wit :

No. 7.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, }

Shreveport, La., Feb. 2, 1863. }

To the Honorable the President and

Members of the Senate :

I have the honor to submit to your honorable body the official bond of the Treasurer of State, for your approval.

Very respectfully, your ob't. serv't.

HENRY W. ALLEN,

Governor State of Louisiana.

(BOND):

THE STATE OF LOUISIANA, }

Parish of Caddo. }

Know all men by these Present :

That we, Bagwell L. Defreese as principal, and J. W. McDonald, J. W. Berry, J. G. Taylor, M. B. Kidd, John Hampton and M. S. Osborn as securities, are held and firmly bound unto Henry W. Allen, Governor of the State of Louisiana, and to his successors in office in the sum of fifty thou-

sand dollars, for the payment of which we bind ourselves and each of us, our heirs executors, administrators and assigns in solid by these presents, signed at Shreveport, this second day of February, 1864.

The condition of the above obligation is such that whereas the above bonded Bagwell L. Defreese was duly elected Treasurer of the State of Louisiana, at an election held in said State on the first Monday of November, 1863. Now if the said Bagwell L. Defreese shall faithfully perform all the duties required or which may be required of him by law, this obligation to be void or else to remain in full force and effect.

Signed B. L. Defreese.

Ten thousand dollars " J. W. McDonald,

Ten thousand dollars " J. W. Berry,

Ten thousand dollars " J. G. Taylor,

Ten thousand dollars " M. B. Kidd,

Ten thousand dollars " Jno. Hampton,

Ten thousand dollars " M. S. Osborn.

STATE OF LOUISIANA, }

Parish of Caddo. }

I do solemnly swear that I am worth as I believe, the sum written opposite my name after the payment of all debts.

Signed,

" J. W. McDonald,

" J. W. Berry,

" J. G. Taylor,

" M. B. Kidd,

" Jno. Hampton,

" M. S. Osborn.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 2d February, 1864.

(Signed) HENRY W. ALLEN,

Governor State of Louisiana.

Approved February 2d, 1861.

(Signed) HENRY W. ALLEN,

Governor State of Louisiana.

On motion by Mr. Clark the rules were suspended and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of said Bond, and on a further motion to approve the same, the roll was called and the following was the result of the vote, to-wit :

Yeas—Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Clark, Coco, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Moore, Pond, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Wall, Weeks and Weightman—16 Senators.

Nays—None.

So the Senate unanimously approved the Bond.

On motion by Mr. Weeks, the injunction of secrecy was removed so far as the action of the Senate in Executive session of this day was concerned.

On motion by the same Senator, the Executive session adjourned and the doors were ordered to be re-opened.

SAME DAY.

The Senate met in Executive session.

Present—Mr. Lewis Texada, in the chair—

Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Clark, Coco,

Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Pond, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Wall, Weaks and Weightman—16 Senators.

The President pro tem. laid before the Senate the following communication from his Excellency, the Governor, to-wit :

No. 8.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, Shreveport La. }
February 2d, 1864. }

To the Hon. the President and

Members of the Louisiana Senate,

I hereby nominate and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate appoint John W. Hays, Rial A. Lancaster. Notaries Public in and for the parish of Claiborne.

Respectfully, your ob't. serv't.

HENRY W. ALLEN.

Governor State of Louisiana.

On motion by Mr. McDonald the rules were suspended and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the above nomination, and on a further motion to confirm the same, the roll was called and the following was the result of the vote, to-wit :

Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Clark, Coco, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Moore, Pond, Reeves, Rogers, Wall, Weaks and Weightman—14 Senators.

Nays—None.

So the nomination was unanimously confirmed.

On motion by Mr. McDonald the injunction of secrecy was removed on the action of the Senate in regard to said nomination.

On motion the Executive session adjourned, and the doors were ordered to be re-opened

THURSDAY, February, 4th, 1864.

The Senate met in Executive session.

Present Mr. Samuel Clark, in the Chair.

Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Coco, Fuller, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald Pond, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Weaks and Weightman.—16 Senators.

On motion by Mr. Wall, the reading of the journal of the last Executive session was dispensed with, and it was adopted.

On motion by the same Senator, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the nomination of Joseph Simmons and Dawsey Lewis, to be Notary Public in and for the parish of Washington, and on a further motion of the same Senator to confirm the same, the roll was called and the following was the result of the vote, to-wit :

Yeas—Mr. Lewis Texada, in the chair, and Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Coco, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Moore, Pond, Reeves, Rogers, Wall, Weaks and Weightman—15.

Nays—None.

Consequently said nomination was unanimously confirmed.

On motion by Mr. Lott, the injunction of secrecy was removed on the confirmation of the above nominations.

No. 9.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, }
Shreveport, La. Feb. 4. 1864. }

To the Honorable the President and

Members of the Senate :

I hereby nominate and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate appoint John Cavanaugh, William Forde and J. H. C. Barlow Notaries Public in and for the parish of Rapides.

Respectfully, your ob't serv't.

HENRY W. ALLEN.

Governor State of Louisiana.

On motion by Mr. Texada, the rules were suspended, the Senate proceed to the consideration of the above appointments and on a further motion to confirm the same the roll was called and the following was the result of the vote, to-wit :

Yeas—Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Clark, Coco, Fuller, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Pond, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Wall, Weaks and Weightman—16 Senators.

Nays—None.

Consequently said appointments were unanimously confirmed.

On motion by Mr. Weaks, the injunction of secrecy was removed in regard to the nominations.

On motion by Mr. Lott, the Executive session adjourned and the doors were ordered to be re-opened.

The Senate met in Executive session.

Present—Mr. Samuel Clark, of DeSoto, in the Chair.

On motion by Mr. McDonald the roll call was dispensed with.

On motion by the same Senator, the reading of the Journal of the last Executive session was dispensed with and it was approved.

The Chair laid before the Senate the following communication from his Excellency the Governor, to-wit :

No. 10.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, }
Shreveport, February 5th, 1864. }

To the Honorable the President and

Members of the Senate :

I hereby nominate and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate appoint Thomas F. Noone, Notary Public, in and for the parish of East Feliciana:

Respectfully,

HENRY W. ALLEN,

Governor State of Louisiana.

On motion by Mr. Pond, the rules were suspended, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the above appointment and on a further motion to confirm the same the roll was called and the following was the result of the vote, to-wit :

Yeas—Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Clark, Coco, Fuller, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Pond, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Wall, Weaks and Weightman—15 Senators.

Nays—None.

Consequently said nomination was unanimously confirmed.

On motion by Mr. McDonald the injunction of secrecy was removed in regard to the nominations.

On motion by Mr. Lott, the Executive session adjourned and the doors were ordered to be re-opened,

SATURDAY, February 6th, 1864.

The Senate met in Executive session.

Present—Mr. Samuel Clark, of DeSoto, in the Chair.

Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Coco, Fuller, Gantt, Lott, McDonald, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Wall, Weeks and Weightman—15 Senators.

On motion by Mr. Weeks, the reading of the Journal of the last Executive session was dispensed with and it was approved.

The Chair laid before the Senate the following communication from his Excellency the Governor, to-wit :

No. 11.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, Shreveport, La. }
February 6th, 1864. }

To the Honorable the President and

Members of the Senate of Louisiana:

I hereby nominate and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint F. B. Amoden, Major Scott, Notaries Public in and for the Parish of Concordia; J. Hunter Collins, of West Feliciana, Administrator of Insane Asylum, vice John McKerven, declined; Hezekiah Thompson, of St. Helena, Director of the New Orleans Jackson and Great Northern Railroad; Charles McVea, of East Feliciana, Liquidator of the Clinton and Port Hudson Railroad company; Daniel Johnson, Parish Surveyor of the parish of Rapides, vice J. Duncan; H. H. Womack, A. L. Wimbish, E. L. Armstead, Notaries Public in and for the parish of DeSoto.

Respectfully,

HENRY W. ALLEN.

Governor State of Louisiana.

No. 12.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, Shreveport, La., }
February, 6th, 1864. }

To the Honorable the President and

Members of the Louisiana Senate.

I hereby nominate and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint Rufus J. Moore, Notary Public in and for the parish of Carroll,

Respectfully,

HENRY W. ALLEN,

Governor of the State of Louisiana.

On motion by Mr. Pond, the rules were suspended, and the Senate proceeded to consideration of the appointments and nominations contained in the two foregoing communications from his Excellency, the Governor, and on a further motion by the Senator to confirm and approve the

same, the roll was called, and the following was the result of the vote to-wit :

Yeas—Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Coco, Clark, Fuller, Gantt, Lott, McDonald, Pond, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Wall, Weeks and Weightman—15 Senators.

Nays—None.

So the above nominations and appointments were unanimously confirmed.

On motion by Mr. Texada, the injunction of secrecy was removed on the action of the Senate in regard to the above nominations.

On motion by Mr. Lott, the Executive session adjourned, and the doors were ordered to be re-opened.

MONDAY, Feb. 8th 1864.

The Senate met in Executive session.

Present—Mr. John Moore, President pro tem. of the Senate, in the chair—

Messrs. Barrow, Coco, Clark, Fuller, Gantt, Gray, McDonald, Reeves, Rogers, Sanders, Taylor, Wall, Weeks and Weightman—15 Senators.

On motion by Mr. McDonald, the journal of the last Executive session was read and approved.

The President pro tem. laid before the Senate the following communication from his Excellency, the Governor, to-wit :

No. 13.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, Shreveport, La. }
February 8th, 1864. }

To the Honorable the President and
Members of the Senate.

I hereby nominate and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint Henry Huish, Frederick Fisher, to be Notaries Public in and for the parish of West Feliciana.

William McFee to be Notary Public for the parish of Morehouse.

Simeon M. Hart, Geo. W. Kearney, Estis Whitted, to be Notaries Public in and for the parish of Natchitoches.

Respectfully,

HENRY W. ALLEN,

Governor State of Louisiana.

On motion by Mr. Grant, the rules were suspended and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the above communication, and on a further motion by the same Senator to confirm and approve the nominations therein contained, the roll was called and the following was the result of the vote, to-wit :

Yeas—Messrs. Barrow, Coco, Clark, Fuller, Gantt, Gray, McDonald, Moore, Reeves, Rogers, Sanders, Taylor, Wall, Weeks and Weightman—15 Senators.

Nays—None.

So the nominations were unanimously confirmed.

On motion by Mr. McDonald, the injunction of secrecy was removed on the appointments confirmed this day.

And on motion by the same Senator, the Executive session adjourned and the doors were ordered to be re-opened.

TUESDAY, February 9, 1864.

The Senate met in Executive session.

Present—Mr. John Moore, President pro tem. of the Senate in the chair—

Messrs. Abney, Barrow Fuller, Clark Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Pond, Sanders Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Wall, Weakes and Weightman—16 Senators.

On motion by Mr. McDonald, the reading of the journal of the last Executive session was dispensed with and it was approved.

The President submitted to the Senate the following communication from his Excellency, the Governor, to-wit :

[No. 14.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, Shreveport, La., }
February 9, 1864. }

To the Honorable the President and
Members of the Louisiana Senate:

I hereby nominate and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint Clairville Bodreau, to be Notary Public in and for the parish of St. Mary.

Respectfully, your ob't serv't.

HENRY W. ALLEN,

Governor State of Louisiana.

On motion by Mr. Sanders, the rules were suspended and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the following nominations and on a further motion by the same Senator to confirm the same, the roll was called and the following was the result of the vote, to-wit :

Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Clark, Coco, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Moore, Pond, Reeves, Rogers, Wall, Weakes and Weightman—16 Senators.

Nays—None.

So the above nominations were unanimously concurred in.

On motion by Mr. Abney, the injunction of secrecy was removed so far as the above nominations was concerned.

The President pro tem. laid before the Senate the following communication from his Excellency, the Governor, to-wit :

No. 15.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, }

Shreveport, La., Feb. 9th, 1864. }

To the Honorable the President
and Members of the Senate :

I hereby nominate and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate appoint John B. Dunnington and George Colmer, to be Notaries Public in and for the parish of Livingston.

And Adolphe Grass to be Notary Public in and for the parish of Iberville.

Respectfully,

(Signed) HENRY W. ALLEN,
Governor State of Louisiana.

On motion by Mr. Wall, the rules were suspended and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the above nomination.

And on a further motion by the same Senator to confirm and approve of said nominations, the roll was called, and the following was the result of the vote to-wit :

Yeas—Messrs. Abney, Butler, Coco, Pond, Clark, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Moore, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Wall, Weakes and Weightman—16 Senators.

Nays—None.

So the nomination was unanimously confirmed.

On motion by Mr. Lott, the injunction of secrecy was removed on the action of the Senate in regard to these nominations.

On motion by Mr. Gantt, the Executive session adjourned, and the doors were ordered to be re-opened.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 10th, 1864.

The Senate met in Executive session.

Present—Mr. John Moore, President pro tem. of the Senate.

Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Coco, Clark, Fuller, Gantt, Gray, McDonald, Reeves, Rogers, Sanders, Taylor, Wall, Weakes and Weightman—15 Senators.

On motion by Mr. Weakes, the reading of the Journal of the last Executive session was dispensed with and it was approved.

The President pro tem. laid before the Senate the following communication from his Excellency, the Governor, to-wit :

No. 16.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, Shreveport, La. }
February 10th, 1864. }

To the Honorable the President and
Members of the Senate.

I hereby nominate and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint Edward E. Harrington, Notaries Public in and for the parish of Carroll.

Respectfully,

HENRY W. ALLEN,

Governor State of Louisiana.

On motion by Mr. Lott, the rules were suspended and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the nominations and appointments contained in the above communication, and on motion by Mr. Lott, to confirm the same, the roll was called, and the following was the result of the vote to-wit :

Yeas—Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Coco, Clark, Gantt, Gray, Lott, McDonald, Moore, Pond, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Wall, Weakes and Weightman. 16 Senators.

Nays—None.

Consequently the above nominations and appointments were unanimously confirmed.

The President pro tem. laid before the Senate the following communication from his Excellency, the Governor, to-wit :

No. 17.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, }
Shreveport, Feb. 10th, 1864. }*To the Honorable the President and
Members of the Louisiana Senate :*

I hereby nominate and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate appoint Peter E Bonford to be Judge of the Supreme Court of the State of Louisiana, First District, vice A. M. Buchanan, impeached.

Thomas C. Manning to be Judge of the Supreme Court of the State of Louisiana, Second District, vice Albert Duffel deceased.

Respectfully, your ob't. serv't.

HENRY W. ALLEN,

Governor State of Louisiana.

On motion by Mr. Moore, the rules were suspended and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the appointments in said message contained, and on motion by the same Senator the roll was called and the following was the result of the vote, to-wit :

Messrs. Barrow, Butler, Coco, Clark, Gantt, Gray, Lott, Pond, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Wall, Weeks and Weightman. 15 Senators.

Nays. None.

Consequently the nominations were unanimously confirmed.

On motion by Mr. Moore, the injunction of secrecy was removed on the action of the Senate in regard to these nominations.

On motion by Mr. Wall, the Executive session adjourned, and the doors were ordered to be re-opened.

MONDAY, February 11th, 1864.

The Senate met in Executive session.

Present—Mr. Thomas H. Weightman in the chair.

Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Clark, Fuller, Gantt, Lott, McDonald, Pond, Reeves, Moore, Rogers and Wall—13 Senators.

On motion by Mr. Gray, the reading of the journal of yesterday was dispensed with and it was approved.

The President pro tem laid before the Senate the following communication from his Excellency, the Governor, to-wit :

No. 18.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, }
Shreveport, February 11th, 1864. }*To the Honorable the President and
Members of the Louisiana Senate :*

I hereby nominate and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate appoint

J. D. White, to be Notary Public in and for the parish of Bienville.

Respectfully, your ob't. serv't.

HENRY W. ALLEN.

Governor State of Louisiana.

On motion by Mr. Abney, the rules were suspended and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of said nominations, and on a further motion to confirm the same the roll was called and the following was the result of the vote, to-wit :

Yeas—Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Clark, Fuller, Gantt, Lott, McDonald, Pond, Reeves, Rogers, Texada, Wall, and Weightman—13 Senators.

Nays—None.

So the above nominations were unanimously confirmed.

On motion by Mr. Abney, the injunction of secrecy was removed so far as the above nominations is concerned.

Yeas—Messrs. Abney, Barrow, Fuller, Clark, Gantt, Lott, Moore, Pond, Reeves, Wall and Weightman—12 Senators present.

The Chair laid before the Senate the following communication from his Excellency the Governor, to-wit :

No. 19.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, }
Shreveport, La., Feb. 11, 1863. }*To the Honorable the President and
Members of the Senate :*

I am informed this day that P. E. Bonford lives in the second district. It is my wish to place him in that judicial district, and T. C. Manning in the first district.

Respectfully.

HENRY W. ALLEN,

Governor of the State of Louisiana.

On motion by Mr. Moore, the rules were suspended and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the above communication, and on a further motion to ratify and confirm the alteration therein contained, the roll was called and the following was the result of the vote, to-wit :

Yeas—Messrs. Barrow, Butler, Clark, Fuller, Gantt, Lott, McDonald, Moore, Pond, Reeves, Wall and Weightman—12 Senators.

Nays—None.

Consequently the Senate unanimously ratified the alteration in said appointments.

On motion by Mr. Clark, the injunction of secrecy was removed.

On motion by Mr. Gantt, the Executive session adjourned and the doors were ordered to be re-opened.

W. F. WAGNER,
Secretary of the Senate.

